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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report

## Near East & South Asia

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Popular Forces Conference Held in Amman 15-17 Sep

### More Than 120 Groups Participate

*JN1509091490 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Sep 90 pp 1, 4*

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Representatives of more than 120 popular parties and organisations in the Arab world today open a three-day conference in support of Iraq against foreign military threat led by U.S. and other Western troops in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

Amongst the most prominent participants in the conference are the leaders of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, George Habbash and Nayif Hawatimah.

The conference will be opened by His Majesty King Husayn according to organisers

Would-be-participants from Egypt were denied exit by Egyptian authorities, reports said.

Members of the central secretariat of the Egyptian National Unionist Alliance (Al Tajammu') Husni 'Abd-al-Razzaq and Faridah al-Naqqash, who is also the secretary general of the Egyptian Women's Union, could not attend the meeting because the Egyptian authorities did not allow them to leave Cairo airport, reports said.

In a letter to the presidents of the Jordanian engineers and doctors associations, 'Abd-al-Razzaq said he and his colleague al-Naqqash were about to leave for Amman, but the Egyptian authorities prevented them from boarding the plane.

'Abd-al-Razzaq and al-Naqqash in their cable to the organisers wished the conference every success in reaching a pan-Arab solution to the Gulf crisis.

The organisers also received a cable from Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN) former assistant secretary general Mohamed Cherif Messaadia who also regretted being unable to attend for "technical reasons related to air transport."

Messaadia expressed his "full support for the Iraqi people and leadership and the Arab masses in their struggle, including armed struggle, against imperialist aggression on the Arab and Islamic nations."

The conference is the first such gathering anywhere in the Arab World since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait on Aug. 2. Most of the participants come from the nine countries that oppose foreign intervention in the Gulf.

### PFLP Leader Habash Arrives

*JN1409114790 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] George Habash, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], arrived in Amman this morning. This is his first visit to Jordan since the September 1970 incidents.

Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, is also expected to arrive in the Jordanian capital to join 120 representatives of Arab political parties and organizations who will begin their meetings in Amman tomorrow at the invitation of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance, which was formed last July.

Former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella is also expected to arrive in Amman tonight. It has been learned that he and Hawatimah will later go to Baghdad.

### Habash on Visit, Gulf Crisis

*JN1509193490 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Sep 90 pp 1, 18*

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR-PETRA—Dr. George Habash, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], arrived in Amman via al-Ramtha yesterday to participate in the Arab Popular Forces conference. In an arrival statement to the press, Dr. Habash said he was pleased to be in Jordan. He said: I am deeply pleased to be in Jordan because of the love, place, respect, and appreciation it enjoys deep in my heart. Jordan embraced the Palestinian people and offered many sacrifices.

Dr. Habash emphasized the importance of the Arab Popular Forces conference, noting that it is an expression of the firm, strong popular will to confront the foreign invasion and to support Iraq. He noted the positive effect of this conference on the kinfolk in the occupied territory and on the brave intifadah, declaring that these activities must be continued. He also stated that it was necessary to pave the way for a solution to the Gulf crisis within the Arab community. He also called for international legitimacy to be applied to the Palestine question.

Dr. Habash affirmed the PFLP's support for President Saddam Husayn's initiative on the Gulf crisis proposing that international legitimacy be applied to all regional issues.

He will hold a news conference at 1100 on Tuesday [18 September] at the International Jerusalem Hotel in which he will speak about the results of his visit to Jordan, Jordanian-Palestinian relations, the Gulf crisis, and other issues.

In a statement to AL-DUSTUR, Dr. Habash said that we should always take into consideration the American imperialist hostility and the U.S. Administration's buildup in the region. It was not just going on a hike. He said that the U.S. Administration feels that it won the cold war against the socialist bloc and camp; it feels that it has become the only superpower in the world and its ambition is to have the world move from a bipolar to unipolar world led by America. He added that it is difficult for the United States to accept the existence of an Arab force that threatens its oil interests and works to regain Arab rights.

Dr. Habash said: We will be committing a big mistake if we ignore the possibility of a military conflagration. I do not want this conflagration and I hope that it will not take place. He declared that despite the previous factors, there are factors that deter the U.S. Administration from producing this conflagration. However, we should take into consideration the possibility of the conflagration and we should work to stop it.

Asked about an imminent American blow to Iraq, Dr. Habash said: So far, the U.S. Administration has not completed the buildup that will place it in an offensive position. Military estimates are that the U.S. Administration needs four or six weeks as of this date in order to be in a position that will enable it to launch an attack. He said: I do not expect an imminent military blow. However, when the U.S. Administration completes the buildup, it will follow the following policy: It will press for the blockade and its implementation to create troubles for the Iraqi leadership. If it succeeds, it will achieve the largest part of its objectives. If it does not succeed, it might think of resorting to force.

He said that what prevents the United States from resorting to force is the comprehensive popular Arab movement in the Arab homeland and among all Islamic people. The U.S. Administration is fully aware that any aggression will certainly mean a threat to its interests in the whole region. In this case, the U.S. Administration will hesitate long before embarking on aggression.

Habash said: There are other factors that deter the U.S. Administration from resorting to the military solution, such as its knowledge of the Iraqi leaders and its feeling that they are not kidding, that they are serious in what they say, as well as its feeling that its oil interests will truly be at risk.

The PFLP leader said: We work so that Iraq will triumph in this war, and when it triumphs, we hope that the Arab nation will take a big step toward achieving its slogans of unity and economic development and imposing a just solution to the Palestine question.

Asked if he is reassured about Iraq's deterrent force in light of his visit to Baghdad, Dr. Habash said: I am not a military expert and have no detailed information on the Iraqi forces. However, I am reassured about the determination of the Iraqi leaders to win the battle. I am also reassured about their self-confidence and great readiness to continue with this battle no matter how long it takes to force the U.S. Administration to leave.

On his analysis of the results of the Helsinki summit, he said: It postponed any thought of military aggression.

Dr. Habash stated that the Palestinian urgently needs the Palestine National Council [PNC] to meet to review and lay down a new militant program that will make the objective of the state attainable. He said: The announcement in Algiers about the establishment of the Palestinian state was the announcement of a militant mission that we place before the Palestinian Arab masses. In this case, the state will be established on the ground. He noted that in accordance with the PLO's bylaws, the PNC should sit every year; however, the PNC has not convened during the past two years.

## Habash on 'Revolutionary Legitimacy'

*JN1509155590 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Sep 90 pp 1, 4*

[Report by Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] Amman—Leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) George Habash said Friday [14 September] that if international resolutions were not applied to solve all of the problems in the region on equal footing, the Arab masses will resort to what he described as "Arab revolutionary legitimacy" to attain their national goals.

Habash, who is visiting Jordan for the first time since 1970, implied in an interview with the JORDAN TIMES that the Arab World should give a last chance for the international community to provide an evenhanded and equal treatment to all problems of the region.

It was the first time the leftist Palestinian leader used the term "Arab revolutionary legitimacy" as such. In the interview he explained that the terms of reference for this "Arab revolutionary legitimacy" were the national aspirations of the Arab people. But he said that at this stage Arabs should give a chance for international legitimacy.

According to analysts, Habash's statement reflects the erosion of the credibility and faith among Palestinians in the United Nations and the international community's willingness to implement the U.N. resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian problem.

Stressing that the U.N. resolutions fall short of responding to Arab aspirations, Habash said that at this stage the Arabs should insist on the implementation of international resolutions calling for a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab territories and addressing Palestinian national rights.

"We are aware that international legitimacy does not grant us our full rights... but at this stage we are ready to have our problems solved through international legitimacy until different international developments take place which might open new possibilities for us," Habash said.

Habash implied that if the Arab World decided to resort to "Arab revolutionary legitimacy" its people would strive to attain maximalist goals such as the liberation of all of Palestine and Arab unity.

"Arab revolutionary legitimacy says that the Arabs are one nation. It says that Kuwait is part of Iraq and that Arab oil is for the Arabs and not for the sheikhs and sultans... according to Arab revolutionary legitimacy all of Palestine is Arab and the Zionists do not have any right to control one quarter of a metre of Palestinian land," he argued.

Yet, he said, the Arabs would be ready to accept all international resolutions concerning the Gulf and the Palestinian problem if the U.S. proves itself genuine in its commitment to international legitimacy regarding all problems.

"We are more than ready to resort to international legitimacy concerning the region. But there are international resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian problem. You are welcome to apply the international resolutions on the Gulf if you are ready to apply them on all problems," he said.

"But if the U.S. posture as guardian of the international legitimacy proved to be fake then we would (by challenging it to apply all resolutions) expose its theatrics and pretenses and resort to Arab revolutionary legitimacy," he said.

He said that the initiative declared by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on Aug. 12 linking a solution to the Gulf crisis and an overall settlement for the Middle East conflict would serve as a good basis for establishing peace in the region.

"The Iraqi initiative says the following: Listen the U.S., if you want to apply international legitimacy on the Gulf and if you insist on posing as the defender of international legitimacy we are ready for all of this. But there are other resolutions concerning the Palestinian problem and Lebanon which also should be applied," he said.

Habash argued that the division within the official Arab ranks over the Gulf crisis did not reflect on the Arab people. "On the contrary, the Arab masses are united behind Iraq and against foreign intervention," he said.

The Palestinian leader said that except for Syria the current division of the Arab World in two camps was predictable in view of the concerned countries' level of dependence on the West.

"The Gulf states endorsed an attitude compatible with their longstanding policies and reliance on the West. The same applies to the Camp David regime in Egypt, and the Camp David godfather, Morocco," he said. "But the Syrian position was unpredictable and unexpected".

Habash, who is based in Damascus, expressed hope that Syria would reconsider its position and "assume its natural place among the countries which opposed the foreign military presence in the Gulf."

Habash dismissed suggestions that the PLO was undermining its own longstanding quest for self-determination by supporting Iraq. "One has to closely study the PLO position. The PLO has declared publicly that it did not support the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and has been searching for an Arab solution," he said.

He pointed out self-determination for the Kuwait people had been a basic principle and ingredient of the PLO's initiative for a solution to the Gulf crisis.

Asked whether a serious setback could befall the Palestinian struggle if Iraq was defeated, especially that the PLO is backing Iraq and can no longer count on full-fledged support for the organisation, Habash said that the Arabs should not be deterred by American power.

"I know very well that the U.S. Administrations feels now that it has reached the peak of its glory. I know that it feels that it has won the cold war against the socialist bloc. I know that it feels that the world has been transformed from a bi-polar one into a one-polar world led by the U.S.," he said. "But I also know that the U.S. is not the destiny of the Palestinian people, or the destiny of the Arab people or even the destiny of humanity."

## DFLP's Hawatimah Arrives, Comments

*JN1509090990 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Sep 90 pp 1, 4*

[Report by Maryam M. Shahin]

[Text] Amman—Any effort to arrive at a just resolution to the Gulf crisis must encompass the Arab-Israeli conflict and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the Arab World, said Hawatimah, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Friday [14 September] a few hours after he returned to the land of his birth for the first time in 20 years.

Hawatimah, who heads the third largest faction in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) after Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), said he fully supported the Iraqi call for a balanced and peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis through a broad international peace conference which would also tackle the Palestinian problem.

In the meantime, he told a press conference, Israel is massing troops in the area near Umm Qays in the north. According to Hawatimah, the build-up represents "the second phase of a American assault which will entail Israeli aggression on Jordan with the aim of moving towards Iraq (from the west) after American troops try to move into Iraq supported by air attacks from Saudi Arabia."

Hawatimah, whose group is based in Damascus, singled out Saudi Arabia and Egypt as the main parties responsible for the splits in the Arab World over the Gulf crisis and reiterated the PLO's rejection of the Aug. 10 Cairo Arab summit resolutions on the problem.

Hawatimah refused to be drawn into directly answering a question why the PLO was "keeping its position on the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait a secret."

The DFLP leader, who left Jordan in 1970, paid tribute to Jordan "from the heart of the PLO, from the heart of the intifada and from the heart of the Palestinian struggle" for its "balanced and principled approach" to the Gulf crisis and its quest for an Arab solution to the problem.

"The Gulf crisis is purely an Arab problem, and the U.S. or any foreign party has nothing to do with it," he told the press conference.

"Hands off the Gulf," he warned the U.S. The American troops are deployed in the region to "protect American oil interests, mainly cheap oil... when an Arab country took the initiative to control Arab wealth..."

"They have come 12,000 kilometres to the Gulf... while no Arab soldier has entered American soil," he said.

However, asked if the DFLP will order attacks on Western targets if the foreign forces do not leave the Gulf, Hawatimah reaffirmed the PLO's commitment not to stage attacks outside Palestine. "Such attacks will not happen," he said. "We are fully committed not to carry out any attack outside Palestine."

The Jordanian-born Palestinian leader compared the present situation in the region with the 1956 Suez Canal crisis and predicted that Western powers will lose in the confrontation. "I anticipate that just as the 1956 war was the beginning of the end for the British and French empires, this crisis will also mark the end for foreign empires here in the region," said Hawatimah, who was born in al-Salt, 30 kilometres outside Amman.

The DFLP leader said Jordanian-Palestinian relations had improved greatly in the wake of the initiation of the democratic process in the Kingdom last year.

"The democratisation process in Jordan has opened the course for reestablishing Jordanian-Palestinian relations on a brotherly and pan-Arab basis," he said.

"Jordanian-Palestinian relations have improved greatly in part because of the courageous stand endorsed by the Jordanian people, government and King Husayn against the foreign military intervention in the Gulf," Hawatimah said.

Speaking on behalf of his party at times and on behalf of the PLO at others, Hawatimah said: "We believe that the current mobilisation and build up of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and America troops in the Gulf took place as a result of precalculated and predetermined plans."

He boosted his argument by pointing out that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said recently that U.S. troops might remain in the Gulf even after crisis is over and referring to Baker's for forming a regional military alliance [sentence as published].

Hawatimah reiterated the often-heard question in the Arab World today that why the United States and the West did not display the same enthusiasm and spirit in earlier inter-Arab conflicts or the broader Arab-Israeli conflict. He specifically referred to the Algerian-Moroccan conflict and the Egyptian-Libyan flare-up as well as Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

In any event, "a new political map will emerge as a result of the recent developments in the Gulf region," he said.

In reply to question, Hawatimah, who is closely linked with Moscow, gave a very positive assessment of the Soviet position on the Gulf crisis. He said while U.S. President George Bush, who met Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Helsinki, Finland, in the first week of this month, had "left all options, including the military option," the Soviet leader had "ruled out a military option" to resolve the problem.

### Hawatimah on 'Baker Pact'

*JN1709110490 Baghdad INA in English 0905 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Amman, Sept. 17, INA—Mr Nayif Hawatimah, secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] said in Amman that "we stand resolutely against the American-Atlantic imperialist intervention in Saudia and the Gulf region." He has further added in an interview to AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad that we strongly believe that these troops have not come to plunder the oil wealth and secure its cheap prices only but rather came and concentrated for aggression on Iraq and the Gulf area so that to shatter the economic and military energy of Iraq and its renaissance, same as was the British and French and Israeli forces attempt in 1956 in the offensive on Egypt during Al-Nasir's era for breaking Egypt's then renaissance.

Hawatimah has further added that we are against the presence of these troops for these reasons and demand their departure immediately without any condition and with the insistence on the Arab solution of the Gulf crisis within the Arab frame.

On the subject of the military pacts the American state department is submitting, Mr Nayif Hawatimah has said "we are against military alliances and three Arab and Palestinian generations have struggled against military alliances and against the military forces in our country."

He has further added that we the Palestinian people know well what means the existence of military alliances because our country Palestine has been put under the British mandate and the result was that it was handed over to the Zionist invasion, therefore we are against the foreign presence and against the alliances. We are quite sure the Arab people who destroyed the Baghdad pact, the CENTO and Eisenhower's will destroy the Baker pact that calls for containing the region militarily and politically. The Arab area and its people will not allow the realisation of plans of the imperialist alliances.

## King Receives Islamic Delegation

*JN1709131990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a delegation representing major Islamic movements, organizations, and figures from various Arab and Islamic countries, at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. His majesty reviewed the Gulf crisis and its causes and developments, as well as his majesty's intensive efforts and contacts to arrive at an Arab political solution to the crisis. Members of the delegation praised these efforts, affirming the importance of continuing them to prevent foreign intervention in the crisis, as this would gravely harm the interests, causes, and aspirations of Arabs and Muslims. Members of the delegation also talked about the expanded Islamic meeting they held in the Jordanian capital during which they discussed the Gulf crisis. They also decided to launch a popular movement to approach all parties to the crisis with a view to keeping it within an Arab and Islamic framework. This is in continuation of his majesty's official efforts to attain the same objective.

The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and his majesty the king's political adviser.

## King Receives Other Delegations

*JN1709133890 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn last night received at the Royal Hashemite Court several delegations participating in the Arab Popular Forces Conference, which is meeting in Amman these days.

His majesty explained the causes and developments of the Gulf crisis and the importance of working to contain it and reach a political solution within the unified Arab fold.

## Speaker 'Arar Opens Conference

*JN1509141190 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] The meetings of the Arab Popular Forces Conference organized by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Grouping [JANDG] began in Amman this morning under royal patronage. It will meet for three days. Details from our reporter:

[Reporter Jamal al-'Abbadi] Deputizing for His Majesty King Husayn, House of Representatives Speaker Sulayman 'Arar opened the conference with a speech in which he discussed developments in the Gulf crisis and Jordan's efforts to contain it.

Mr. 'Arar declared that current events in the region have placed Arabs in a very dangerous situation in which attention has been diverted from the prime Arab cause, the Palestine question. This has given Israel the chance to mass even greater numbers of Jewish immigrants from all over in the occupied territories in preparation for forcing the owners of the land to leave.

He said: From the moment the crisis started, we warned against this danger, asserting that every Arab issue requires an Arab solution. It should not be transformed into an international issue.

He added that despite the internationalization of the crisis, we still believe in the Arab solution, which we believe will be the successful solution, divorced from outside influence.

Mr. 'Arar warned that the continuation of the Palestine question as it is now without a solution means that tension in the region will continue in view of the importance of this issue to the Arab people. Mr. 'Arar added in his speech:

[Begin 'Arar recording] Dear brothers and sisters: Your country, Jordan, which is building its democratic institutions and is very proud of its vanguard experiment, will not be prevented from performing its natural role toward the nation and its cause through lack of resources or the harshness of its circumstances. It will proceed down its path, the path of the great Arab revolt, the torch of which it bears, without worry or hesitation, irrespective of the threats and accusations made against it. We will soon come out of this crisis, God willing, much stronger than we were on the eve of the day it surprised us.

I wish your conference success and pertinence in everything that strengthens our nation and keeps away from it all revealed and concealed evils being concocted against it. I call on God the Almighty to grant us wisdom and guidance, to light the way of unity for us, to guide us to take its course, to make us emerge at the correct point, and to guide us so that we, all the Arabs, will reach a state in which we ourselves bear the responsibility for the security of our region and the future of our generations. God is our best master and supporter. [end recording ] [passage omitted]

[Al-'Abbadi] Delegations from a number of Arab countries are participating in the conference, as well as George Habash, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Nayif Hawatimah, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who arrived in Amman yesterday for this purpose. Also participating in the conference are a number of popular key figures and Jordanian and Arab professional unions.

The opening session was attended by a number of senators and deputies. It is expected that the conference, which will last three days, will resume this afternoon when the participants will discuss the Gulf crisis and formulate a joint statement to make clear the Arab popular stand on the crisis. From the conference venue, Jamal al-'Abbadi reporting.

### Address by 'Arar, Others

*JN1609102590 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic*
*16 Sep 90 p 10*

[Report by 'Awdah 'Awdah]

[Excerpts] Amman—Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the House of Representatives, yesterday opened the Arab Popular Forces Conference at the Palace of Culture in Husayn Sports City. The three-day conference, which was organized by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA], is attended by several national, pan-Arab, and democratic figures as well as leaders of Palestinian factions, including Dr. George Habash, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]; Nayif Hawatimah, secretary-general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]; Shibli al-'Aysami, assistant secretary-general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party; Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC]; members of the Jordanian Senate and House of Representatives; and members of the PNC.

Sulayman 'Arar delivered a speech in which he said: I welcome you all in this part of the land of Arabism and Islam which God has honored to defend the nation and protect its sanctities ever since God blessed this land and made His noble prophet set foot on it on the night of the ascension to the heavens.

He added: You are meeting today in Amman while the entire world is focusing on our region and rushing and competing to control its resources in the most serious crisis facing the world and the largest big-power military buildup in the entire history of mankind. The strange thing is, this buildup and this rush and competition takes place on the pretext of supporting another Arab country. This in itself constitutes a new, unprecedented phenomenon within our Arab nation.

He said: We believed from the first moment that the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait could have been contained even after the Iraqi incursion into Kuwait. We saw a big opportunity for an Arab intervention and mediation between brothers to tackle this problem from its roots. The beginning of the Arab mediation was encouraging and it inspired optimism, especially after our Iraqi brothers responded to it. However, certain Arab quarters, which only a few hours earlier had requested this Arab role, changed their mind and blocked that opportunity, paying no attention to the encouraging result it had reached. The door was opened wide for the Gulf crisis to become a world problem in view of the many international parties involved and the enormous military buildup which has gotten under way so far. Thus, the Arabs have found themselves amid a big danger involving almost all world forces. As a result of this development, attention quickly turned away from the central Arab issue which was at the top of Arab priorities; namely, the Palestine question. In the meantime, Israel continued with its plans to bring in Jewish emigres from the Soviet Union prior to crushing the intifadah, expelling Palestinian Arab citizens from their homeland, and imposing a new fait accompli on the Palestinian Arab land.

Thus, having been internationalized and removed from Arab hands, the Gulf problem is now being discussed on other continents among the big powers whose sole concern is to share benefits and the rich resources of our blessed Arab land and draw the features of this Arab homeland as they imagine it, for God knows how many years to come.

The speaker of the House of Representatives said: All successive developments preceding and succeeding the Gulf crisis according to the international solution have failed and proved dangerous. Here we are witnessing the chapters of these developments, despite our belief that the Arab solution is the only successful and less costly remedy. We do not know the secret behind canceling the Arab measures for convening a mini Arab summit, or the secret of replacing that summit with an expanded summit which was hurriedly convened and did not discuss any Arab solution.

We emerged from this summit with the Arab League and its charter being its first victims. The Arab League and its charter were this summit's first victims because the Arabs had formulated this charter so that it might become the basis for Arab unity or unification and so that the Arabs could discuss their own affairs and reach decisions without the interference of foreigners and to avoid our nation and its resources' becoming dependent on international resolutions whose results we cannot foresee. We also cannot know how these resolutions will end at the hands of these powers, which have always been part of the Arabs' problems, the principal cause of these problems, and a constant obstruction in the face of any resolution on any Arab cause that can be described as fair to Arab rights.

We have cautioned against this danger and said that every Arab cause requires an Arab solution and that transforming this or that cause into an international issue will lead to the participation of all the countries in the world, particularly the superpowers and big powers, which are concerned only with their own interests and which will divide the region and reorganize the political map of the region to conform to their interests, to dominate its fate for many decades to come.

We have warned against all this since the very first day of the crisis, and we believed and continue to believe in the Arab solution to protect our cause against the many serious eventualities.

'Arar added: Although we have announced our abidance by the UN Security Council resolutions, we realize that the sudden enthusiasm for this resolution [not further specified] in particular is not motivated by eagerness over the implementation of the international organization's resolutions. There are many resolutions the UN Security Council has issued over the past tens of years but which the five overzealous UN Security Council permanent members have either intentionally tried to ignore or have procrastinated over in their implementation. A review of the fate of the international resolutions on Palestine, which safeguarded only a minimal portion of the Palestinians' rights, clearly shows the international community's unique biased stands and double standards. This also explains the many times the United States resorted to its veto against any draft resolution seeking to infuse life into previous UN Security Council resolutions, denouncing any of the Israeli crimes, or protesting against any Israeli actions seeking to liquidate the Palestinian people through killings, imprisonment, torture, or deportation.

'Arar said: Nowadays, we hear calls for military alliances and security arrangements that are being prepared for our region. We warn against all this and reiterate to the world at large that this is not the remedy for any problem. On the contrary, these plans will produce additional problems. We would like to say from this rostrum that the only successful solution that will avert difficulties and tribulations for everyone is either an Arab solution to the Kuwait issue without any interference from outside the region, or the establishment of a trend for the implementation of all the UN Security Council resolutions dealing with our region. Any selection of any one resolution of the many UN Security Council resolutions which have been kept in abeyance for years is unacceptyable and unjust, and can be viewed as being a new confiscation of the Arab nation's will and an attempt to seek protection behind modern fleets and bases. We repeatedly cautioned the world in the past, and we do the same now, that if the Palestinian cause is not tackled and a fair solution not found for it, then tension in the region will continue to prevail and crises will occur whose repercussions will affect the world at large, given the unique location of the Arab land and the bountiful wealth it contains, wealth which should have been used for the benefit of the Arab people and for relieving poverty and deprivation.

'Arar added: Your country, Jordan, which is building its democratic institutions and is very proud of its vanguard experiment, will not be prevented from performing its natural role toward the nation and its cause through lack of resources or the harshness of its circumstances. It will proceed down its path, the path of the great Arab revolt, the torch of which it bears, without worry or hesitation, irrespective of the threats and accusations made against it. We will soon emerge from this crisis, God willing, much stronger than we were on the eve of the day it surprised us.

'Arar concluded by saying: I wish your conference success and pertinence in everything that strengthens our nation and keeps it away from all revealed and concealed evils being concocted against it. I call on God Almighty to grant us wisdom and guidance, to light the way of unity for us, to guide us to take its course, to make us emerge at the correct point, and to guide us so that we, all the Arabs, will reach a state where we ourselves bear responsibility for the security of our region and the future of our generations. God is our best master and supporter.

Bahjat Abu-Gharbiyah, one of the leaders of JANDA, delivered a speech in which he said: In the name of the Arab people in Jordan and in the name of JANDA I warmly welcome you in your country and among your own kinfolk and thank you for taking the trouble to travel to Jordan to attend this popular Arab conference.

He added: JANDA has explained that the purpose of convening this conference is to stand by fraternal Iraq in its pan-Arab battle against U.S. threats and aggression and also against U.S. imperialism and those supporting it. The purpose of the conference is also to evolve a general public opinion in the Arab world in order to support Iraq and to participate in its battle. Thus, JANDA has called for convening this conference under the slogan: For the Sake of Confronting the U.S. Imperialist and Zionist Onslaught, Which Began With the Invaders' Occupation of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab Gulf Waters, and Supporting Iraq.

He said: No doubt, our noble guests must have heard about the general public uprising in Jordan for supporting Iraq and strongly rejecing and denouncing the U.S. ground, naval, and air forces' interference in private Arab affairs and their landing on Saudi soil, the Arab Gulf waters, and the Red Sea, threatening Iraq with terrorism and war, and mounting a savage blockade around it in violation of all human rights. We must point out here that this popular stand in Jordan is identical to a large degree with the official stand, which has given Jordan a notable Arab and international status and facilitated the convocation of our conference under the patronage of his majesty the king. [passage omitted]

He said: We have acted in support of Iraq because the move taken by fraternal Iraq under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn in returning Kuwait to its Iraqi motherland is a strategic move in the right direction—the direction of Arab unity and Arab sovereignty over Arab oil. Let Arab oil belong to all Arabs, not to a few of them. Let Arab oil become a source of power for them, not a source of backwardness, corruption, and enslavement.

Muhammad Balhaj 'Umar delivered a speech on behalf of the Arab delegations to the conference. He affirmed that the Tunisian masses and the peoples in the Arab countries have stood as one man in solidarity with fraternal Iraq in its confrontation and steadfastness against the U.S.-Arab invasion of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab Gulf.

He praised JANDA for convening the conference at this important phase through which the Arab nation is passing and in which the nation is divided into two groups: a group of freemen who are committed to the noble pan-Arab cause and who believe in closing Arab ranks against all dangers and challenges, and another group which seeks protection under the Western umbrella and solidarity with the imperialist invader.

Balhaj 'Umar said: We and Iraq are in one forward trench to confront the United States, which stands against the will of the Arab peoples. [passage omitted]

Balhaj condemned the Western economic and military blockade to starve and subjugate Iraq and plunder its resources.

He called for the exploitation of our oil and other resources in order to benefit all Arabs and not just some of them.

Balhaj hailed the leaders of the Palestinian revolution attending the conference, such as Dr. George Habash and Nayif Hawatimah, affirming that the masses will not succumb or surrender but will face the aggression and the blockade and break them, God willing. He said the invaders will leave our precious region so that Arab land will belong to the Arabs and Arab oil will belong to the Arabs.

Retired Lieutenant General Mashhur Hadithah al-Jazi said: In the name of everyone, I extend our greetings to His Majesty King Husayn, without whose pan-Arab stand we would not have had the honor today to host this large gathering of brother Arab strugglers who came to us from the east and west of the great Arab homeland.

He said: King Husayn's brave and daring stands during the current crisis reflect the historic leader's awareness of his responsibility of facing the grave historic moment. These stands also embody the agreement between people and the leader on the objective of defending the nation and the entire Arab future, destiny, and existence. [passage omitted]

The first working session of the conference was held in the evening under the chairmanship of Hamid Sa'id, president of the Arab Writers Federation; his deputy Husayn Kuwar, member of the political bureau of the Organization for Democratic and Popular Action in Morocco; and the rapporteur Engineer 'Awni al-Sakit.

Dr. George Habash, secretary-general of the PFLP, took part in the political discussions during this session. He spoke about his view of the Gulf crisis and the means to confront the imperialist invasion of the Arab region.

Dr. Habash began his discussion by saying: We and Iraq, the people of Iraq, the Army of Iraq, and the Iraqi political leadership are in one trench. We will wage this battle against the U.S. invasion forces with all our power, capabilities, and determination.

After expressing his support for "the tight, wise link between the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question" he said that out of his complete support for the Iraqi people and army, he opposes anyone who belittles this battle and treats it emotionally because the U.S. Administration, which has succeeded in its cold war against the socialist camp, is preparing itself today to turn the world into a single-polar world rather than a bipolar or multipolar world.

He added: The radical changes which have taken place on the international level for almost a year now have forced the national liberation forces in the entire world to depend largely, and perhaps solely, on themselves. By virtue of these changes also, the United States has dared to say that it is thinking of a new world order. Perhaps, whoever heard George Bush's speech a few days ago, must have realized that the new world order portends woes for the Third World countries.

Dr. Habash continued: We are now experiencing an official Arab situation, whose main manifestation is total surrender to the U.S. invasion. He added: We are now more convinced as to what the United States had in mind by the Camp David accords. The main objective of those accords was not peace or Sinai, but the establishment of a U.S.-Arab-Israeli alliance to confront the Arab liberation movement.

Dr. Habash said: Despite this Arab and international situation, we possess scientifically all the bases for victory. He affirmed that we possess three main weapons, and if we know how to use them history will record the most splendid victories for our nation. These weapons are: First, the Iraqi Army, which all specialized reports say is the fifth or sixth power in the world. Second, Iraq is sitting on an oil lake which contains 20 percent of the world's oil reserves, constituting a formidable economic force. Third, the Arab masses, which constitute the most important weapon. This is the only weapon which the United States cannot confront with all its computers.

Dr. Habash cited the example of the Palestinian intifadah and the role currently played by the Jordanian people in support of Iraq as a result of releasing the masses' energies under the new democratic trend. He called on progressive and patriotic Arab forces to work toward further developing the masses' energies and capabilities.

Dr. George Habash presented several ideas concerning the slogans for the battle, what we want, and how we can achieve our objectives. He said: It is wrong to rule out the possibility of the imperialist forces' starting a military battle. He added that he proposes a political language which says: If the U.S. Administration insists on war, we are ready for it. And, if there is an opportunity for a political settlement in which Iraq and the Palestine question would achieve some of their objectives, we support this course. In order to enter this course, every individual among the masses of our people must feel that he is defending a just cause.

Dr. Habash affirmed that the initiative proposed by Iraq provides the key to presenting the issue on the international level and mobilizing world public opinion behind it. Dr. Habash ridiculed the U.S. claim that it is concerned about international legitimacy. He referred to several UN resolutions concerning the Palestine question which the United States did not make a single move to implement.

Dr. Habash expressed his support for the idea of settling all the region's problems on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy "otherwise we have our own Arab revolutionary legitimacy which says all the Arabs are one nation and it is their right to unite in one entity rather than remain as 21 separate entities. We have our Arab revolutionary legitimacy which says Arab oil is for the Arabs and not for the shaykhs, and that Zionism has no right to set up a state on a single inch of Palestine."

Dr. Habash concluded his discussion by saying: We say to our kinfolk in Iraq, Palestine, Jordan, and in the entire Arab homeland: Dawn is coming.

Nayif Hawatimah, secretary-general of the DFLP, extended greetings to the brave Jordanian people from the heroic Palestinian people in Lebanon and in the occupied territory and elsewhere. He praised JANDA's call for convening this conference while the United States is beating the war drums in our countries and on our land.

He said: We are all turning toward fraternal Iraq while saying to the Americans: Leave our countries. Stop the blockade on Iraq. Hands off the Palestinian people. He said: O strugglers, we call on you to remain steadfast, because a new Arab map is being drawn. He added: Yes, our enemies want us to submit to U.S. conditions. But they will not get what they want. Iraq of the nineties is not Iraq of 1981. It is the Iraq of steadfastness, revolution, and victory.

He said: They are lurking for us in order to strike the hordes of our steadfastness and awakening. They have not come merely to contain our oil wealth, but also to strike at our new awakening. Because Iraq's awakening is the awakening of the entire Arab nation.

Hawatimah called on Jordanians to take up arms in defense of Jordan against Israeli ambitions. The trained mases, he said, will not allow the invaders to occupy the Jordanian Arab territory. They will leave just as Israel left Beirut and Lebanon, thanks to the brave Palestinian national resistance. I hope that this conference will not just be a political demonstration. He said the conference should be a factor toward the establishment of a broad Arab front embracing all figures and parties from the ocean to the ocean.

Hawatimah proposed that the conference should come out with a political declaration containing specific common political denominators. He added: We call on our brothers in Hamas to agree with us on common denominators concerning repatriation and self-determination. He also called on the other Islamic trends to stand by all the forces in order to defeat the imperialist-Zionist invasion. He said: Hands off Iraq, the Gulf, and the Arabian Peninsula. We are capable of solving our problems within the Arab framework.

Shibil al-'Aysami, assistant secretary of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party [and former Syrian prime minister exiled in Iraq], delivered a speech in which he said that the different movements of the Arab struggle forces have not held such a meeting for well over a third of a century. This, he said, shows that political maturity and pan-Arab interests and strategies are being placed above secondary and factional issues. It also shows awareness of the true dimensions and crucial results of the battle. [passage omitted]

### Conference Proceedings 16 Sep

*JN1709131790 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 90 p 1, 6*

[Report by JORDAN TIMES Staff Reporter, Lamis K. Andoni]

[text] Amman—A meeting of Arab political parties and popular organizations has decided to send a shipload of food supplies and medicine with a symbolic participation of Arab women and children to Iraq as one step to challenge the embargo against Iraq.

Organisers of the meeting, which opened here Saturday [15 September], told the Jordan Times that the ship would depart from one of the Maghreb states to an Iraqi port defying a U.S.-led naval blockade against Iraq. The idea was originally presented by a number of political parties from Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria and Libya, which are functioning as one bloc at the conference

During Sunday's session the organisers read out an appeal by the unified leadership of the intifadah to Libya and Algeria to cut off oil supplies to the West and support Baghdad in its confrontation with the West.

"Struggle is the only way to defeat the fleets and armies; so let us direct all of our efforts to break the blockade against Iraq," said the intifadah leadership's call, which was welcomed with loud applause.

Representatives of more than 120 political parties and organisations from nine Arab countries discussed means to counter the Western military build-up in the Gulf for the second consecutive day.

The "Conference of Arab Popular Movements Against Western Military Intervention (and) in Solidarity with Iraq" is organised by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA), a predominantly leftist coalition.

The three-day conference, which is scheduled to conclude, Monday [17 September], has also decided to form a committee to follow up the implementation of its recommendations and to maintain coordination among Arab political parties and popular organisations.

"Keeping up coordination is relevant for the formation of a unified front against Western intervention and in support of Iraq," Issam Shabi from Tunisia told the Jordan Times.

The final communique was expected to demand an immediate withdrawal of U.S.-led foreign troops from the Gulf and the implementation of all United Nations resolutions pertaining to both the Gulf crisis and the Middle East conflict.

According to JANDA officials, the conference will announce a series of activities across the Arab World on a regular basis to broaden and activate opposition to the Western military presence in the Gulf. For example, they said, the committee to be set up by the conference will call for a certain popular function—such as demonstrations, fund-raising campaigns and strikes—on the 6th of each month, marking the date in August when Western troops arrived in Saudi Arabia.

The drafting committee, which met twice Sunday and expected to meet again Monday morning was also considering a call on Arab workers to boycott the handling of American shipments to the Arab World on certain dates. The proposal was made by the president of Iraq's workers' union who suggested that Arab workers stage a boycott, "every now and then," of American shipments or even air baggage for two hours across the Arab World.

Fadil Gharib said the workers would then distribute leaflets to the passengers explaining that move was to counter the embargo against Iraq.

Organisers said that the conference will issue a memorandum to be signed by millions across the Arab World demanding the departure of foreign troops from the Gulf and calling on the Arab states which have sent troops to Saudi Arabia to reconsider their decisions.

Participants said that Arab political parties will concentrate their efforts on increasing contacts with popular organisations in the states which have lined up with Washington to increase the pressure on their governments.

During Sunday's afternoon session, the floor was given to participants as well as audience to make suggestions. Some members of the audience criticised the lack of Arab studies and plans necessary to organise a strong Arab popular movement.

In the morning session, North African delegates called for a dialogue between Arab and European political parties to explain the Arab viewpoint. They also proposed that a delegation comprised of representatives of leftist parties start a dialogue with Moscow.

It was unclear Sunday if JANDA was going ahead with a mass rally which was scheduled to be held at the Sports City Monday afternoon to crown the three-day conference.

In their appeal to the meeting, leaders of the uprising urged Syria to withdraw troops it deployed in Saudi Arabia.

They called on Egyptians and Moroccans to oppose their government's decisions to send troops and appealed to the Arab masses to volunteer for military service to support Iraq and set up a special aid fund.

A Sudanese delegate to the conference called for commando raids against U.S. forces.

"We are ready to join the Iraqi popular army as volunteers and to carry out commando operations against American forces," said 'Abdallah al-Hasan of the General Union of Sudanese Democratic Youth.

A Palestinian delegate to the conference urged the Arab masses to make speedy moves in the regional and international arenas to warn of the consequences of a conflict in the Gulf region and said that attempts should be made by Arab states to make it clear that any aggression on Iraq would engulf the whole Arab Nation.

'Abbas Zaki, member of the Central Committee of Fatah, said the multinational force had started deployment in Saudi Arabia in July and not after Iraq's takeover of Kuwait as Israel and the West began to feel the need to stem the Iraqi military and technologicall might.

Zaki paid tribute to Jordan for its steadfastness in the face of continued pressure despite its economic hardships and said that the Palestinian people back Jordan in this steadfastness and back Iraq's attempt to abort international conspiracies.

Another speaker at Sunday's session was Dr. Mas'ud al-Shabi who said that the massing of foreign troops in the Gulf reflects the Western fears of a united Arab World and an Arab might, and manifests the West's hatred of the Arab Nation.

'Abd-al-Majid al-Rafi'i from Lebanon said that Iraq was taking a heroic stand in the face of the dangers posed to the Arab Nation and in the face of the "American invasion." He said that the Arab masses suport Iraq's efforts to repel aggression and end the foreign presence on Arab land.

### Popular Figures Address Sessions

*JN1809070090 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic*
*17 Sep 90 p 4*

[Report by Jamal al-'Alawi and Hani Duwayk in Amman]

[Excerpts] The Arab Popular Forces Conference [APFC], organized by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA], concludes today.

The Arab people will speak their mind today through their representatives to the Arab people's summit in support of Iraq and in confrontation of U.S. aggression on the Arab nation.

The conference's political statement will set forth the common denominators through which the conferees will address the world in defense of the Arab upsurge in the face of challenges.

The conferees held two working sessions during which they heard speeches by Arab delegates. [passage omitted]

In his speech, 'Abbas Zaki, member of the Fatah Central Committee and head of the higher committee for the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah in the PLO, said: The current massing of Western fleets aims to put an end to all forms of sovereignty and independence in the Arab region. Therefore, the battle is not that of Iraq alone but of the Arab nation from the Ocean to the Gulf.

Mr. Zaki added that since Iraq started posing a direct danger to the West and the United States, which enjoy luxuries at the expense of the people in the Arab region, it became necessary for the United States to subject this whole nation to its authority. However, Iraq's victory in various fields—most importantly military technology—was the true and practical response to them.

Mr. Zaki said that we in the Palestinian revolution are proud of realizable and strategic wagers. This is why we had an early strategic wager on Iraq.

Mr. Zaki declared that the Jordanian people and land represent the conscience of our Arab nation. He called on everyone to stand in one rank alongside Iraq and alongside the new dawn that Iraq will realize for the Arab nation. He praised the distinguished fraternal relations that link the Jordanian and Palestinian people.

He said that what is happening in the Gulf is very dangerous; however, we are confident that Iraq will accept the challenge and emerge triumphant.

Mr. Zaki called on the conferees to support Iran to enable it to continue taking its positive and honorable stand.

He pointed out that the Desert Shield operation was planned in July, before Iraq entered Kuwait, as Yemeni unity greatly worried enemies and their fears over oil sources increased. Therefore, the U.S. and Western military fleets arrived in the Gulf before 2 August.

He warned the United States and its allies against taking military action in the region or continuing to besiege Iraq, because, if the situation explodes, the results cannot be predicted.

Mr. Zaki also noted the dangerous and known Israeli designs, which have been put off upon request from Arab leaders so that the Arab man on the street does not revolt. Israel, in accordance with the U.S. scheme, will soon proceed to perform its duty in the second round of this conspiracy against our region.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid al-Rafi'i, head of the Lebanese delegation and member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's regional command, delivered a speech in which he said: U.S. imperialism sees nothing in the Arab nation other than a strategic location that protects its interests and a market to sell its products.

He added: With the emergence of Iraq, which mastered science and technology, and the emergence of a strong leader who strikes a double blow when struck once and loudly pledges to destroy half of Israel if it attacks Iraq or any other Arab country, U.S. imperialism found itself face to face with a new phenomenon in revolutions, face to face with a new breed of men. It was not accustomed to hearing words and seeing deeds such as this leader's. He, therefore, became a symbol of the aspirations of the Arab masses from the Ocean to the Gulf for unity, liberty, and progress. Imperialism then began to wait for an opportunity to try and extinguish this luminous spot and turn back the wheel of history. [passage omitted]

Mr. 'Isam al-Shabi delivered a speech on behalf of all delegations that represent the parties and organizations from the Arab Maghreb countries in which he pointed out that the crisis our Arab nation is experiencing requires us to mobilize ourselves to confront the Zionist imperialist U.S. aggression.

Mr. 'Isam al-Shabi proposed providing all needed support for President Saddam Husayn's initiative and organizing a strike day for all the Arab masses to demonstrate, burn the U.S. flag, and collect donations for Iraq. He also proposed organizing an European-Arab seminar to explain the Arab stand. [passage omitted]

The evening session was chaired by Mrs. Intisar al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member; Mamduh al-'Abbadi, vice chairman, doyen of the Doctors' Union, and official spokesman for JANDA; and Pharmacist Taysir al-Humsi, rapporteur and doyen of the Pharmacists' Union.

Mrs. al-Wazir said: I salute you in the name of Palestine's intifadah and the symbolic leader Martyr Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir]. We announce that the Baghdad of the Arabs shall not be left alone.

She added: We will be one front in confronting the invading forces.

Iraqi 'Awqaf Minister 'Abdallah Fadil also delivered a speech. He said: From the Iraq of victory and from leader Saddam Husayn, who is supported by God, we come to you bearing the greetings of Arabism and jihad.

He adds: In every age and generation, the struggle between our nation and its enemies has taken on a special character. The nation never lacked strong youths willing to overcome difficulties for the victory of the nation and the heroic leader.

He pointed out that the nation remains proud despite the harsh hindrances and the tip in the balance of power in favor of the enemies.

He said: The increasing spread of Arabism and the rise of pan-Arabism compels the imperialist countries, foremost of which is the United States, to monitor this awakening and its directions in order to abort it in any possible way and prevent it from obtaining scientific information.

He pointed out that the tripartite aggression of 1956 aimed to strike at the Arab nation and put an end to its development.

He said that the Arab Ba'th is in harmony with the spirit of Islam in the pan-Arab awakening in Iraq which declared that it will not allow any aggression on the Arab nation and that Jerusalem will not be the eternal capital of Israel, but the capital of the independent state of Palestine.

He referred to the objective the United States sought to realize before 2 August to shake the Iraqi economy and starve its people. President Saddam Husayn warned against this in the last Baghdad summit.

The Iraqi 'Awqaf minister reviewed the evidence and historic facts which affirm Iraq's indisputable right to Kuwait since Iraq was established, and Iraq's refusal to recognize the part that was severed from it.

He pointed out that the Iraqi president's initiative regarding the comprehensive peaceful solution in accordance with single principles and standards constitutes a just and realistic solution for solving the issues facing the nation, away from double standards.

He said that the credibility of the UN Security Council is facing a historic test. He pointed out that the policy of these new alliances will be toppled as were the previous alliances. The Arab nation will resist the U.S. interference in our Arab region.

He said that the United States is seeking to reshape the map of the Middle East in accordance with its strategic interests, entrench the Zionist aggression and occupation, contain the valiant intifadah, fragment the Arab League, and create a permanent U.S. presence in the region.

The Arab response to the U.S.-Zionist scheme must be on par with the challenges. He proposed arousing the Arab arena, launching the initiatives of the masses, bolstering steadfastness and supplying its needs, raising the level of preparedness against the various kinds of blackmail, thwarting the economic boycott, adopting President Saddam Husayn's initiative of 12 August on both the popular and official levels, and escalating the intifadah.

He praised the Arab leaders who stood by Iraq, foremost of which are His Majesty King Husayn and the Arab people in Jordan. Iraq and Jordan are made up of one arena with the same parties and national figures.

He said the echoes of battle are resounding throughout the Arab and Islamic nations. Let our motto be no withdrawal. The believer goes forward.

Deputy Engineer Layth Shubaylat spoke, saying: Jihad is today present without awaiting any legislation. He pointed out that Iraq will not be alone. Jordan and Palestine will be a part of Saddam's arena.

The United States has set numerous goals. The first of these, which constitutes the key to all the other goals, is to strike at Iraq's military power and the independence of its political decision and set up a regime which accepts subservience and does not have the courage to take any action outside the sphere of the arrogant forces.

The second goal is to humiliate the Islamic nation by desecrating their holiest of holy shrines, prepare them for surrender, and exploit this situation to implement the third goal, which is to eliminate the intifadah, pull down the al-Aqsa Mosque, build Solomon's Temple in its place, allow the Zionists to expand toward Jordan, and deport the Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip there.

The fourth goal is to control the oil sources by using direct military force so that Europe—Germany and Japan [as published], in particular—will understand that the final word and sovereignty in the world will not be that of economy, but of military power.

The fifth goal is to rally round Iran, deal the Islamic state a blow, and reestablish the liberal secular state instead so that, after taking control of Iraq, Iran, and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], no spiritual or material power will remain to prepare for the emergence of Islam and its immortal humanitarian, civilized project once again.

He said that what is noteworthy is that the Iraqi leadership is aware of all these dimensions and is escalating its dealings with the event to befit this awareness. We expect it to escalate its speeches and slogans and work in accordance with them more each day.

However, the forces and popular movements that support Iraq in the Arab and Islamic world have had varied reactions to the nature of the struggle and its objectives at various levels. After sorting out the American Arabism from Arabism and American Islamism from Islamism, we find that the slogans of the Muslims on which they are concentrating their efforts are closer to the nature of the struggle, and even closer to the Iraqi leadership's stand, than those of their brothers working in the nationalist pan-Arab current.

Although the events our nation is undergoing are capable of forging the honest workers in Islamic and Arab action into a unified mobilization, circumstances have not yet been fully exploited by both sides in a way that satisfies the conscience. We have not managed to elevate the process of ranking between the two sides into a state of strategic alliance, not to mention a state of natural union. [passage omitted]

He [Shubaylat] called on the political and popular leaderships not to deal with events by waiting for the U.S. move toward its targets. We should set our own targets ourselves and take action on them, set the appropriate slogans for the nature of the struggle, fully believe in them, work toward implementing them, launch this distinguished and united relationship between Islam and Arabism, adhere to the contents of this relationship, and distance from these two ranks those elements who do not apply or live a daily life of revolution which clings to its Arab contents and its Islamic moral, social, and cultural system. They should bear the eternal message to set up a humanitarian system that takes the place of the arrogant world system. Yes to an Islam whose heart is Arabism;

yes to an Arabism whose spirit is Islam; no to subservience and estrangement; yes to armament, on to armament, to armament. No peace, no capitulation; but onward to Islam, and Islam again. [passage omitted]

Mr. Nicola al-Farzali from Lebanon delivered a speech in which he said that the fierce war led by the United States against the Arabs today was prepared before Iraq rectified the deviant situation in Kuwait and retrieved the part that was severed by British colonialism.

He said the Gulf crisis revealed imperialist intentions, whose aim is to strike the Arab rise before it matures. The battle will come—there is no doubt about that—between the Arabs and the Washington alliance.

He said that Israel is building settlements in southern Lebanon after it annexed its territory and water resources before the eyes of the UN troops, and despite the many resolutions issued by the UN Security Council.

He called for starting popular action and going beyond Arab support and the limits of sympathy in these fateful moments.

Mr. Husayn, representative of the Vanguard Movement [harakat al-tali'ah] in Egypt, delivered a speech in which he said that the war in Iraq is a war of all Arabism in which internal and external aggression are joined.

He added that Iraq fought for Egypt's return to the Arab stand and sought to extricate it from foreign subservience.

He said: The people of Egypt are Arab in their heart and soul. He pointed out that our stand is a stand that rejects humiliation and confronts foreign presence on Arab land. Our stand is opposed to aggression against Iraq. The honorable people in Egypt are the masses, all the people, and our date with revolution has come very close with a third crossing on the sixth of October.

Mrs. Intisar al-Wazir commented after the speech of the Egyptian Vanguard Movement concluded, saying that the Egyptian people, the people of 'Abd-al-Nasir, will remain loyal to their nation. [passage omitted]

Mr. Muhammad Abu-Sham'a delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian Communist Party which he began by questioning the real reasons behind the rabid U.S. campaign against Iraq. He pointed out that it goes back to the status Iraq has attained since its war with Iran ended, in addition to the prominent and distinguished role it started to play on the various military, economic, petroleum, and technological levels.

He added that the United States believes that Iraq's role and status exceeded the red lines of its interests in the region. These lines are the military and oil power and the financial assets. Therefore, the United States started setting the stage for its fierce military campaign against Iraq many months ago. [passage omitted]

Artist Ahmad al-Sanusi from fraternal Morocco delivered a speech in which he said that Iraq had not occupied a country, but that Kuwait is a part of Iraq.

He said they [not further identified] wish to assassinate Iraq and the Arab nation at a stage when the catchphrase is to sort out and define stands. [passage omitted]

### 'Voice of Arab Masses' Heard

*JN1809090790 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic*
*17 Sep 90 p 1, 16*

[Editorial: "The Arab Masses' Choice"]

[Text] In an atmosphere teeming with pan-Arab and democratic warmth, Amman yesterday hosted the Arab Popular Forces Conference which convened at the initiative of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA] to confront the Zionist, American, imperialist attack and to emphasize the entire Arab nation's support for fraternal Iraq.

As is customary for the king to patronize every pan-Arab gathering, Husayn decided to patronize this conference. From the conference's podium and through its speakers, the Arab people expressed their deep realization of the dangers of the aggressive onslaught to which the region is being subjected. They also expressed their firm determination to confront it and rescue the Arab will from foreign conspiracies which target shackling it and turning it into a subservient tool.

The conference convened so that the whole world would hear the voice of the Arab masses who reject imperialist belligerence, aggressive threats, and humiliating projects which seek to oppress the Arabs and corner them in a military pact controlled by the United States and Israel. In addition, it will make the whole world hear the voice of the Arab masses who are rejecting foreign designs aimed at robbing the Arabs of their wealth and aborting the pan-Arab dawning from Baghdad.

It is important to remind one here that this rejection is not merely a theoretical stand; it is a cautionary warning whose essence is that the Arab masses will not remain indifferent if the aggressors do not understand this warning and if they do not retreat from their suspect projects.

The truth has become crystal clear. The problem is no longer merely a dispute with Iraq; it is an issue of hegemony that imperialism wishes to force on the Arabs to cause them to lose their presence in the new world order.

Because of all this, the Arab masses will not hesitate to defend themselves, their future, and their hopes now manifested in a scientific, technical, and pan-Arab dawn breaking from Baghdad. The Arab masses know that the real reason for the fury of the NATO alliance members and the imperialists stems from the fact that Baghdad had the courage to break the barrier of Arab incompetence. It had the courage to translate the slogan of Arab self-power into performance which developed the Iraqi army into the fourth army in the world in terms of quantity and quality. It had the daring to demand the rights of the poor from the rich and called for investing Arab wealth in a pan-Arab manner.

Yes, the Arab masses know all this. They are certain that the aggressive threats to which fraternal Iraq is being exposed are threats against them in all parts of the Arab homeland. In addition, these masses adhere to the only option capable of frustrating the suspect aggressive designs, the option of pan-Arab struggle from which there is no going back.

We salute the Arab popular forces which opted for declaring adherence to this option before the whole world.

### Cable From Fatah Council

*JN1709181590 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Sep 90 p 17*

[Text] Amman, AL-RA'Y—Members and cadres of Fatah-the Revolutionary Council [Abu-Nidal's movement] have sent an urgent cable to the Arab Popular Forces Conference in Amman in which they wish the conference success in serving the goals of the Arab masses on the path of liberating the land, unifying the nation, and establishing popular democracy in the Arab homeland.

The cable urged the conferees to endeavor to end the fighting and achieve a cease-fire in southern Lebanon (Sidon and the nearby camps), obtain the release of all those abducted and detained, and restore things in the camps to the way they were before the events.

The cable also urged action to find an integration formula for all factions in the camps to carry out their activities in a democratic manner.

### Message From Unified Leadership

*JN1809074990 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 17 Sep 90 Second Edition p 2*

[Report by Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—The Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah has addressed a message to the Arab Popular Forces Conference held by the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA] in Amman.

In its message, the leadership declared it firmly stands by fraternal Iraq and the Arab peoples in confronting the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the security, progress, future, and life of the Arab peoples. The leadership said it declares from its militant position that it stands together with the Arab peoples and all world nations in confronting the new, blatant U.S. imperialist aggression against all the peoples. The leadership said U.S. imperialism, which is the enemy of all nations, is trying hard to create a new world order in which it can play a direct role in confronting the national advancement of all world nations, especially the Arab peoples. The message added that the Palestinian masses and their national forces in the occupied homeland consider the Gulf events and the imperialist-Zionist military buildup as a repetition and an extension of what is taking place on their territory. They know the objective of this buildup, which is to strike at our Arab peoples' accomplishments and return the region to a situation of direct military control in preparation for plundering the resources of our Arab land. The message said: As planned by the Zionist Kissinger, imperialism is seeking to regain control of the Arab Gulf, the Red Sea, North Africa, and the eastern Mediterranean by consolidating its direct presence and reinforcing the role and power of the Zionist entity by supplying this entity with more weapons, expertise, and fresh material capabilities, as well as manpower, in order to complete the U.S. strategic presence in our Arab East.

The message also said: We declare our support for this first Arab popular conference in Amman, and call upon Syria to withdraw its forces from Saudi Arabia and to place them on the border with the Zionist enemy. We also call upon Syria to open its border with Iraq and to back Iraq with all its capabilities and help establish the eastern front in support of our people and the Arab peoples in the liberation battles.

The message called upon the Arab masses in Egypt and Morocco and their various national figures to return the Arab armies from the Gulf.

The United National Leadership of the Intifadah called for making all efforts to break the blockade against our children and women in Iraq, stopping oil supplies to the West's lifeline and military machines in order to create more crises for it, and dispatching armies and symbolic forces to the land of Iraq.

The message highly evaluated the role played by the PLO and the progressive Arab patriotic and nationalist forces in support of the Iraqi people's struggle, our Palestinian people, and Arab peoples against the grave dangers threatening the future of the Arab peoples.

The National Leadership called on the popular Arab professional and trade unionist figures to propagandize the idea of volunteering for the sake of supporting Iraq, serving its different utilities, and providing it with the energies it requires, as well as boycotting the goods of the United States and the countries participating in the aggression.

The leadership also called on the progressive patriotic and nationalist forces to prepare for a popular march toward Iraqi territory, to form committees of solidarity with Iraq, and to prepare information and political programs and plans to back the struggle of our Arab peoples.

Moreover, the leadership called on the various Arab forces to agree on a one-day general strike for all the Arab peoples when processions will march to the embassies, centers, and establishments of the countries participating in the aggression, the flags of these countries will be burned, and memos will be dispatched to international organizations. The leadership called for the formation of an Arab National Fund on the basis of a clear program to back the pan-Arab effort.

The message pointed out that the Gulf incidents confirm the need for reform, democratization, and improvement of national and pan-Arab programs, and firmly linking all these programs together. The message said the Gulf incidents have presented new tasks which must be fulfilled.

The leadership called upon Arab women's federations and various groupings in all Arab countries to play a clear, distinct role, just as Palestinian women are playing a clear, distinct role in our people's struggle in this delicate phase which calls for the utilization of all of our resources.

The leadership called on the religious forces in the different Arab countries to coordinate their stands with the progressive patriotic and nationalist forces in all arenas in order to form a single popular confrontation front.

The message highly evaluated the mature, principled, and moral stand taken by the Iranian regime and people toward the Western military buildup in the Gulf area, which is aimed against our Arab peoples. It also highly evaluated the role played by the Jordanian and Palestinian forces, saying: We expect the Arab peoples to further evolve their stands and increase their open and direct support for the pan-Arab battle. We cannot but be with Iraq in its steadfastness and challenge to the biggest hostile imperialist-Zionist buildup.

The leadership affirmed that the Palestinian people stand solidly behind their legitimate leadership in its daring pan-Arab struggle stand. It called for establishing a link between the struggle for the Palestinian national cause and the struggle of the Arab peoples. It said: We support the Palestinian peace initiative. We also support President Saddam Husayn's initiative in which he affirmed the need for a Zionist withdrawal from the Golan, Gaza, the West Bank, and southern Lebanon, and for finding a comprehensive solution to the conflict in the region. We call upon the international community and the Arab peoples and their patriotic and nationalist regimes to emphasize this link and to assert our people's rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. We also call for earnest efforts to place the occupied Palestinian territories under temporary international supervision on the path of freedom and independence.

### Conference Ends, Statement Issued

*JN1709193690 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The Arab Popular Forces Conference ended its work in Amman this evening after three days of discussions and issued a final statement in which it called for a solution to the Gulf crisis within the Arab framework. Our reporter for political affairs has sent us the following report.

[Reporter] The Arab Popular Forces Conference issued a statement at the end of its work in Amman today stressing the need to adopt a unified Arab position toward the extremely grave threats facing our Arab nation which are aimed, in the first place, against the Arab individual.

The conference stated that the Arab battle is tough and difficult and requires unity, mobilization of energies, and solidarity with Iraq. The conference reiterated that the Arab solution to the Gulf crisis inside the Arab home is the safest and most effective one, discarding the West's military escalation and attempts to spread hegemony and violate independent Arab decisionmaking. The conferees also pointed out that Arab efforts to solve the problems of the Arab nation in an Arab spirit should continue. They said the West's military presence is designed to destabilize Iraq, which took steps toward technological development and scientific progress. It is also designed to starve Iraq and harm the Arab individual.

The statement hailed the steadfastness of the sons of the intifadah—the sons of the Palestinian Arab people—who face the Israeli enemy, who brags about democracy and presses for implementation of the Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis. The statement also hailed Jordan's firm and principled position. It said that the popular forces, which met in brave Jordan and in the Amman of steadfastness and Arabism, are deeply grateful to the Jordanian Arab people and to His Majesty King Husayn. The conferees also thanked all the Jordanian groups that contributed to the success of the conference. They decided to set up a committee to follow the resolutions and recommendations of the first people's summit, called the permanent pan-Arab committee for the Arab Popular Forces, in order to follow up on resolutions and coordinate among the various Arab popular forces. The committee's headquarters will be located in Amman.

### 'Text' of Statement

*JN1809093090 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Sep 90 p 18*

["Text" of final statement issued by the Arab Popular Forces Conference in Amman on 17 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To our Arab and Islamic masses; to the sons of our one Arab nation; to the honorable and free men as well as the advocates of peace and justice: At the invitation of the Jordanian Arab National Democratic Alliance [JANDA], the Arab parties and popular forces met in Amman 15-17 September and discussed the dangerous situation caused by the U.S. military occupation of a part of our Arab homeland, the desecration of our holiest Islamic shrines, and the massive foreign presence in some Gulf states and Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia]. This occupation returned our countries to the dark eras of direct occupation and revived military alliances. This matter constitutes a cultural challenge to our nation, undermines our sovereignty, encroaches on our pan-Arab and national dignity, and poses threats to the future of our generations and also to their aspirations for unity, development, progress, and peace.

By unanimously agreeing on a unified position vis-a-vis these highly dangerous threats, and on the need to confront them with force if the need so dictates, the conferees honestly express the will of our Arab nation in all Arab states. They also express this nation's rejection of the U.S. intervention which is supported by NATO's capabilities and resources. By so doing, the conferees also express the nation's support of our people in Iraq, and their determination to break the economic blockade agreed on and enforced by the hostile and covetous countries which seek to share our homeland and control its resources in a manner similar to what occurred after World War I.

After three days of serious fraternal discussions; out of a sense of the magnitude of the responsibility entailed; feeling the grave dangers posed to the Arab east and Arab Maghreb; proceeding from the conviction that the battle is going to be cruel and hard, and will require unity, a mobilization of resources, a demonstration of solidarity with Iraq and the Iraqi people, and an expulsion of the colonial troops from our homeland, the conferees unanimously agreed on the following:

The U.S. colonial invasion of a part of our homeland, and the buildup of NATO fleets in our regional waters was not a spontaneous reaction to the events which took place on 2 August. It is a link in the chain of the historical conflict between our Arab nation and the colonial West. This conflict proceeded from past to contemporary phases. The clearest embodiments of this conflict were the crusader wars, the occupation of Algeria and other Arab Maghreb states, the defeat of the Muhammad 'Ali Pasha experience which sought to bring about unity and progress, the establishment of a racist Zionist state in the heart of our homeland, and the tripartite aggression against Egypt.

The motives that prompted the United States and the colonial West to carry out this invasion have nothing to do with the defense of Kuwait and the protection of some Gulf states and the Arabian Peninsula, which were not threatened in the first place. This invasion was prompted by efforts to seize control of Arab oil and preclude its use as a weapon in the hands of the Arab nation to secure its development and modernization, to defend its sovereignty and sanctities, and to realize the slogan "Arab oil is for Arabs, for the whole Arab nation." Likewise, this invasion was also prompted by a desire to control the future of mankind, particularly considering that we are on the threshold of the 21st century, that Germany is going to be reunited, that Japan is achieving an uprecedented renaissance, and that Europe will become a united entity. Moreover, this invasion was driven by an attempt to thwart the Arab cultural and unionist plan initiated by Iraq strongly and capably after the end of the Gulf war. The promising features of this plan emerged with the launching of democratic life in Jordan and some Arab states, with the launching of the intifadah by our courageous Palestinian Arab people, and also with the achievement of Yemeni unity in an advanced and civilized manner.

The Gulf crisis could have been resolved within an Arab framework and within the Arab home. It has been proven that the Iraqi leadership attempted to use various means to resolve the Kuwaiti issue peacefully and through Arab channels. However, the suspect intransigence, which is supported by a U.S. conspiratorial scheme that seeks a return to our region under bayonets, has complicated matters and brought them to where they now stand.

There was a great opportunity for the righteous Arab efforts to succeed in containing the crisis at its beginning and to resolve it within its correct framework. However, certain Arab states, in harmony with the preprepared U.S. plan, followed a different direction. The Cairo summit was held in the tragic manner it was. And, instead of the Arab leaders sitting together to tackle their own affairs, some of them deviated from the Arab will; turned their backs on Islamic sentiments; approved the invasion and occupation as well as the desecration of Holy Mecca and the tombs of the prophet, may the peace and blessings of God be upon him, and his followers, may their souls rest in peace; and dispatched Arab soldiers to Najd and Hejaz and certain Arab Gulf states to form a cover for the invasion and occupation forces.

All indications show, and the statements made by U.S. officials also confirm, that the U.S.-Atlantic invasion is here to stay in our land and holy places for a long time, perhaps even decades. The removal of this occupation calls for a general uprising, a serious popular movement, a release of democratic liberties, a courageous Arab official and popular stand, and a strengthening of unity steps. We are before a difficult and arduous conflict which calls for mobilizing Muslims in all parts of the world in defense of the holy places, the tomb of the prophet, and the holy mosque. What is required is the creation of a broad front pooling all resources. We are before a new liberation battle such as the Algerian liberation battle and the Palestinian liberation battle. This battle calls for a strong Arab and Islamic unity. It also calls for convening an urgent Arab-Islamic conference.

The mobilization of Western imperialism and the imposition of the blockade on Iraq in this quick manner confirms that the objective of the hostile forces is to destroy an Arab state, which has begun to chart a modern Arab order and to form an effective Arab force for a qualitative Arab leap and a strong popular steadfastness to confront Zionism's expansionist ambitions following the aggravation of the Jewish emigration issue. This Arab state has also begun to form a solid wall behind the Palestinian revolution and the brave intifadah in occupied Palestine. All this was reinforced by the suspension of the Gulf war, where all indications point to the possibility of the growing Iraqi-Iranian relations serving as a nucleus for an Arab-Islamic front on democratic bases.

The conferees were astonished by the rabid campaign against the Palestinian people which has assumed several serious manifestations. In harmony with the U.S. plan, several Gulf states have begun expelling Jordanians and Palestinians who have lived for decades in that region and played a major role in its modern development. The conferees were also astonished that certain Arab papers and official media have joined a hideous Western propaganda campaign against the PLO, Jordan, Algeria, Yemen, Tunisia, Mauritania, Sudan, and Libya because of their insistence on an Arab solution to the crisis and their refusal to dispatch Arab forces to serve as a mere cover for the aggression of the U.S.-Atlantic forces. The conferees have established that the onslaught on fraternal Iraq did not begin on 2 August, but long before that, that is, since the nationalization of Iraqi oil some 22 years ago and since the raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor in coordination between Israel and the United States. This onslaught also coincided with Israel's continuous Israeli pressure and military threats against Jordan as well as its savage suppression of and annihilation war against the Palestinian people in our occupied land.

O Arab and Muslim masses. O honest, free men and supporters of peace and justice in the world. The plot has been exposed, and it has been confirmed that the United States wants to return our homeland to the ages of darkness and direct occupation, block the way to Arab unity, prevent democratic changes, and pave the way for Zionism's expansionist ambitions on our land. Washington is trying to exploit the circumstances resulting from the crisis in the socialist camp in order to play the role of world policeman and impose its odious imperialist will on the peoples of the earth by the whip and thick stick as has happened in Panama and Grenada and is happening now in Najd and Hejaz and some of the Arab Gulf states.

We call for a campaign under the banner "There is no god but God" in all parts of the land to surge forth to defend holy Mecca and Medina and the resting places of God's prophet, his companions, and the imams from the U.S. desecration. We also ask all free people in the world who oppose racism and subjugation to raise their voices loudly and clearly in condemnation of the U.S. aggression and the ugly siege of Iraq and its children. The battle is one battle, and freedom cannot be divided.

The Arab popular forces and parties which have gathered in the land of courageous Jordan, declare from the Amman of steadfastness and Arabism that they are opposed to the U.S.-Atlantic invasion and the dangers of destructive war it bodes, whose scourge will not stop at the borders of Iraq, the Gulf, and the Middle East, but will spread to the rest of the world. They also announce that they are for the draft solution proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on 12 August which links the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question and withdrawal from the Golan Heights and Palestine. International legitimacy is a whole unit that cannot be split. The conferees affirm that imposing the siege on Iraq is a criminal and racist act. They also affirm the need for maintaining the Arab League, which has been targeted by the conspiracy, and keeping its headquarters in Tunis until the Arab countries take a legitimate decision contrary to that. They also call for the necessity that all Arabs, wherever they may be in the Arab east or west, benefit from the Arab oil wealth which is being squandered in an appalling and tragic way. They also emphasized the necessity that oil be sold at cost price to the nonproducing Arab countries or at the same price it is sold in the producing countries.

Proceeding from these considerations and for the purpose of serious and dedicated action which will rise to the level of the challenges, the conferees have agreed to establish a follow-up committee called the Standing Pan-Arab Committee for Arab Popular Forces to be based in Amman. JANDA will temporarily be responsible for performing the tasks of the Pan-Arab Committee and for preparing an integrated project and basic system which will enable the Pan-Arab Committee to perform its duties after it is set up with participation from all parts of the Arab world.

The conferees believe that this committee should have long-term strategic and pan-Arab objectives and short-term implementational objectives. The long-term pan-Arab objectives are:

First, to coordinate the activities of the popular committees which will be formed on the pan-Arab level to rally popular potentials to confront the imperialist Zionist aggression against the Arab nation.

Second, to exchange experiences and experiments in organizing the popular committees and coordinating their activities.

Third, to entrench the democratic course and defend the human rights of the Arab individual wherever he may be.

Fourth, to unite the popular Arab rank to confront the American-Zionist aggression in the Gulf and Palestine.

Fifth, to defend Iraq in the face of the imperialist-Zionist threat and thwart the conspiracy of siege.

Sixth, to provide the PLO with aid, support the valiant intifadah, and stand alongside Jordan in the face of the Zionist threats and imperialist-American pressures.

As for the executive short-term objectives, they include launching an Arab fund to be called the Iraqi Child Fund to collect donations, issuing a white paper in all languages addressed to the West explaining the Arab nation's causes, and striking at U.S. interests everywhere, by all means, the moment the U.S. military aggression on Iraq begins. They also include marking the monthly anniversary of the U.S. military landing in Najd and Hejaz and some Gulf states through the staging of demonstrations and marches and the burning of U.S. flags, as well as the flags of the countries participating in this invasion. They also include the following: Agreeing on a date on which the Arab people will boycott U.S.

goods; agreeing on a date on which protest marches will head for the embassies of the countries participating in the invasion; the holding of an intellectual Arab-European dialogue seminar to explain Arab causes; and the issuance of periodic statements appealing to the Arab troops dispatched to Hejaz and Najd and some Gulf states by their governments to revolt against the decisions of their commands and to disobey U.S. commands. These objectives also include: Hailing the Egyptian forces and parties which have chosen to support their nation's causes, and condemning the Egyptian Government's decision to ban the representatives of these forces from participating in the Arab Parties and Popular Forces Conference.

Out of an eagerness by the Arab parties and popular forces to reject any infringement or encroachment on their independent decisionmaking, the conferees decided that the revenues of the Standing Pan-Arab Committee will depend on the following:

First, the contributions of parties, bodies, and nationalist figures participating in this endeavor.

Second, the unconditional donations given by popular forces and bodies, and also by the nationalist figures which adhere to the sound Arab position and have nothing to do with any hostile party.

Third, the return of some activities to be performed by the Standing Pan-Arab Committee and the national subcommittees emanating from this committee.

O our Arab and Islamic masses; O free and honorable people throughout the world: The conferees deeply thank the Jordanian Arab people and his majesty the exalted al-Sharif Husayn. They also would like to thank the Jordanian agencies that have contributed to the success of this conference. At the same time, the conferees would like to affirm their support of the Arab states which rejected the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy and adhered to the Arab solution; namely Jordan, Palestine, Algeria, Yemen, Tunisia, Sudan, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, and Mauritania. Likewise, they call upon the sons of the Arab people whose governments succumbed to the U.S.-Zionist will to declare their positions frankly, and to respond to the appeal of their sanctities, the appeal of their sacred soil which has been defiled, and the appeal of their eternal nation.

It pleases the conferees, on behalf of the Arab parties and popular forces, to address greetings of pride and homage to the heroes of the valiant intifadah, and to reiterate that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It also pleases the conferees to tell the Iraqi Arab Army and the Iraqi people the following: We are with you, and the sons of your Arab nation clasp your hands and reject the tendentious allegations of George Bush, the leader of world imperialism. Greetings to the Arab Jordanian people and their courageous leadership which hosted this pan-Arab conference and rendered it a success.

Glory and immortality to the righteous martyrs of our Arab nation!

Victory to the valiant intifadah, the Iraqi Army, and the courageous Iraqi people!

Victory to the Arab will in securing freedom, unity, democracy, and progress!

May God, who is the best supporter and backer, grant us success!

## Islamic Affairs

### Islamic Leaders Undertake Mission To End Crisis

*JN1609134590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Representatives of Islamic movements and organizations in a number of Arab and Islamic countries held a news conference in Amman today. They announced their intention to begin goodwill efforts to resolve the conflict in the region. More details from our reporter:

[Reporter] The representatives of Islamic movements and organizations who recently met in Amman have announced that they are launching an Islamic good-offices effort to resolve the Middle East conflict and the Gulf crisis within an Arab-Islamic context. In a news conference today, they said that as part of these moves, they met with His Majesty King Husayn last night, who briefed them on the causes and developments of the Gulf crisis and on his majesty's efforts and intensive contacts to reach an Arab political solution to the crisis. They said they will continue these efforts to prevent foreign interference in the crisis because such interference would greatly harm the interests, causes, and aspirations of Arabs and Muslims.

In a statement they read at the news conference, they said that in their moves they will follow Islamic principles and bases acknowledged by Islamic sharia. The statement stressed that the delegation's efforts came in response to calls by Islamic leaders in Arab and Muslim countries with a total population of 1 billion Muslims. The aim is to uphold the Islamic nation's causes, protect the Islamic identity, and apply the provisions of the Islamic sharia, which prevents the sons of the Islamic nation from fighting each other and from seeking help from infidels against believers.

The statement said that Islam chose shura as a system of life because it ensures the dignity of Muslims in terms of freedom, thought, participation in public affairs, and all other human rights. This requires that Muslims show tolerence, brotherhood, and adherence to Islamic principles in all their conflicts. They stressed in the statement that the wealth of the nation is the property of all Muslims and should be used in accordance with the requirements of religion and the interests of the public. The aim is to achieve cohesion and fair distribution of wealth, develop and defend Muslim countries, and serve the Islamic creed. They added that jihad is a duty for the sons of the Muslim nation to fight back against the aggression and protect the sanctity of land and holy places. They stressed that the conspiracy against the Islamic nation has been going on for centuries, and that the occupation of Palestine and its sanctities and the uprooting of its people by Zionism and colonialism was a major link in this conspiracy. The Gulf crisis is another link in this conspiracy aimed at undermining the valiant intifadah and occupying the Islamic sanctities in the holy lands.

An Islamic delegation drawn up from Islamic movements and organizations in Jordan, Egypt, Syria, Republic of Yemen, Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria, Pakistan, Turkey, and Malaysia was formed. The delegation left this morning for Saudi Arabia as part of its mission.

The news conference was held by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalifah, controller-general of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan; Dr. Hasan al-Turabi, leader of the Sudanese National Islamic Front, and Qazi Hussain Ahmed from the Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan. The conference was attended by members of the Islamic delegation that will undertake moves and contact officials and popular and Islamic forces in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran as the first step.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Bush's Taped Message Called 'Full of Lies'

*JN1709201090 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1845 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Commentary by political editor: "Bush's Logic Is One of Infidelity and Aggression"]

[Text] Those who listened to U.S. President George Bush's message to the Iraqi people, aired by Iraqi television last night, cannot but see that the American language lacks proof and logic. It only knows lies, allegations, and falsification. Surely the aggravation of the American enemy's impasse in the Arabian Gulf leaves no option for its arrogant and aggressive language other than to be full of lies, charlatanism and falsification, and the illusion that it can be passed and accepted.

We do not want to say that Bush has become sick with illusion because he sought, through his words, to make the odds meet on one hand and to pretend to forget or ignore the facts on the other. That Bush should make such an unsuccessful attempt shows he is more than sick with illusion. He was out of balance when he tried in his message to appear as general governor of the world; guardian of its life, values, ethics, and logic; and legislator of its laws. Bush is shamelessly crowning himself as advocate of world peace and human rights, especially when it comes to the right of starving children and murdering humans that care about their wealth and sovereignty over their lands and [words indistinct].

Illusion and arrogance have blinded George Bush, so much so that he sees the world as only the United States, its allies, and its agents. And according to this logic of Mr. Bush's, these parties are now on Arab land to protect the world, its interests, and its future. In the fever of this sick vision, how can the Palestine question be linked to the developments of the Gulf crisis?

But the entire issue, moreover, is far more serious. The U.S. President believes that we might not read between the lines of his miserable message and that we might be deceived by his lies and allegations. Consequently, we will not be able to discover his frantic attempt to formulate a new law for the world, indeed, a new world under the full control of the United States. We might not discover, moreover, that the presence of the invading forces on the land of the Arabian Peninsula is a step in the execution of this [word indistinct] imperialist plan.

At any rate, we must finally tell Mr. Bush that he must know full well that all his rhetoric, no matter how strong and brilliant, cannot be an alternative to the objective facts, and can never falsify reality. Nor can it beautify the ugly U.S. face, which our masses know very well and from which our masses have suffered much, and are still suffering. We must also tell Mr. Bush that he must remember clearly that his country's most modern war technology failed to affect the will of our valiant Palestinian revolution and the heroic masses of our people. It is again unable and will continue to be unable to take a single stone away from the hand of a Palestinian child, who faces the Zionist invaders unarmed except with dignity and a will that believes in victory. Bush remained silent for long, but when he spoke, he only uttered infidelity. God is great; defeat for the aggressors.

### Source on Treatment of Palestinians in Kuwait

*JN1709174590 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] An official Palestinian source has stated the following: After investigating, the PLO was stunned by the extent of the tragedy to which the Palestinian community in Kuwait has been exposed at the hands of Kuwaiti officials who remained in Kuwait and also at the hands of Kuwaiti armed groups, which have injured the honor of some of our women and attacked our employees, teachers, and property belonging to the community. What has made things worse are these feverish, suspect, spiteful, and false campaigns by U.S., Zionist, and certain European media organs against the Palestinian people. Regrettably, some Arab media organs in general, and the Egyptian media organs in particular, are participating in the campaign.

As a result of these spiteful campaigns, our people have paid a high price, be it in Kuwait, Qatar, or some other Arab country. They have been expelled, deprived of education, and prevented from traveling and even obtaining residence permits or working. What happened in Kuwait against our Palestinian community cannot be ignored, nor can the unjust media campaign to which we have shown enough patience be overlooked. Everyone supporting these practices and unjust, spiteful, and fabricated campaigns will be responsible for the consequences.

The PLO will not sit back with folded arms and will shoulder its pan-Arab, national, and moral responsibilities to protect our people and their interests, honor, and souls. And soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take. [Koranic verse] It is a revolution until victory.

## 'Abd-Rabbuh Urges 'Comprehensive Solution'

*JN1809110790 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1, 12*

[Text] Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the Information Department, has said that during its recent meeting last Monday [10 September], the organization stressed that all international forces should be committed to a comprehensive solution for all Middle East issues, foremost being the Palestine question. He stressed that the organization's position stems from commitment to international legitimacy, which is an indivisible whole.

'Abu-Rabbuh described President George Bush's rejection of this principle as a violation of and a departure from international legitimacy. The Executive Committee, he clarified, has valued the positions of Western Europe and the Soviet Union, which have shown an understanding of the Palestinian ideas which call for a comprehensive solution to all regional issues based on implementing the international legitimacy resolutions as a whole, and not on focusing solely on the resolutions concerning the Arabian Gulf while ignoring or dropping those on the Palestine question.

He added that during the meeting, the committee stressed the need for holding talks with Europe, the Soviet Union, China, and sisterly Arab countries on developing the ideas and suggestions proposed by the Soviet leadership, which call for an international peace conference in the Middle East, since such a step would also help in defusing war and pushing the Gulf crisis toward a comprehensive solution.

The PLO Executive Committee member pointed out that the course of the current conflict in the region has not been obfuscated but emphasized that the solution to the Palestine question is the key to stability and security in the region, and that the Palestinian peace initiative is the practical basis for the peace process.

'Abd-Rabbuh has expressed the belief that the Palestine position, which adheres to international legitimacy, is a balanced one. He clarified that the organization sensed this during its meeting with the West European parliamentarian delegation several days ago, something which indicates an appreciation and understanding of the organization's balanced policy.

On the other hand, the Executive Committee has expressed its appreciation of the position of the Soviet Union and its President Mikhail Gorbachev in rejecting the use of military force or resorting to war in resolving the Gulf conflict, and in stressing the connection between the Gulf and Palestine issues.

The Palestinian official has disclosed that the organization, through its future contacts with Moscow, will seek to develop what he described as a general principled position and activate political action—especially at the level of the UN Security Council—in order to find a suitable mechanism for achieving such a connection between the two issues, refocusing discussions on the Palestine question, and securing guarantees to tackle the Gulf crisis within the political framework and avert the specter of war.

The Executive Committee has also discussed the conditions of Palestinians in the Gulf states and the measures that would ensure the protection and stability of the Palestinian people. 'Abd-Rabbuh revealed that the organization has taken some measures in this respect, reaffirming the seriousness of the action taken by a Gulf state in deporting and expelling Palestinians. He said that this action goes beyond the limits of sovereignty because it is based on hostility to the Palestinian people and on inflicting harm to their interests, when they—for decades—held the strongest brotherly relations with the Gulf peoples and made every effort to build up and develop that area.

'Abd-Rabbuh expressed the belief that the organization considers the continuation of media campaigns against it in some Arab capitals as another form of hostility to the Palestinian people and their legitimate leadership. He said this attempt falls within U.S. endeavors to obliterate the Palestine question and distort the balanced political role of the Palestinian leadership on Arab and international levels in order to resolve the Gulf crisis and regional issues on the basis of international legitimacy.

## Egypt

### President Mubarak Comments on Gulf Crisis

*NC1709180090 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met at a military base today with commanders of the armed forces and troops of the unit that, in a recent decision, is to be dispatched to Saudi Arabia to defend the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Islamic sanctities in line with the resolutions passed by the Arab summit conference held in Cairo and the international organizations and world community resolutions. The meeting was attended by General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production and commnader in chief of the armed forces; Lieutenant General Safiy-al-Din Abu-Shinaf, chief of staff of the armed forces; Lt. Gen. Mustafa al-Shadhili, commander of the air defense forces; Vice Admiral Sharif al-Sadiq, commander of the naval forces; Air Force Commander Lt. Gen. Ahmad Nasr; corps commanders; and commanders and officers of the unit that will go to Saudi Arabia.

[An AFP report at 1521 GMT on 17 September says: "Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on Monday (17 September) visited a military base from which an estimated 15,000 troops are expected to leave by sea for Saudi Arabia, reliable sources reported here.

["The official Middle East News Agency, reporting Mr. Mubarak's visit, did not identify the base but dated its dispatch from the Mediterranean port of Alexandria."]

During his meeting with the combat unit's men, the president discussed the Gulf crisis in detail and its latest developments.

President Mubarak said: It is regrettable that we should leave to defend an Arab country because of threats by another Arab country. It is also regrettable that at a time when we wish to contain the situation and to avoid an explosion or escalation, we receive from the other party only accusations, abusive words, and vituperations. I do not like encroachment and triviality, but there they know nothing but encroachment, disputes, and charges of agentry and treason. What is strange is that these charges are made by those who devoured an independent Arab state and killed and displaced its people. It is also strange that two years ago they were talking about the need for renouncing these words and for nonaggression of any Arab country against another Arab country no matter what the reasons.

President Mubarak explained the developments and circumstrances that preceded the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. He asserted that all the measures they took before the invasion aimed at neutralizing Egypt and buying its silence at any price, noting that Egypt will never stand against what is right.

The president said the issue is clear. An Arab country has invaded and occupied another Arab country, a neighbor, a member country of the Arab League and the United Nations, a Muslim and Arab country. He noted: If they justify this with historical rights, Egypt also has an historical right to many places, but we did not resort to and never thought of adopting this uncivilized method.

The president referred to the OAU's stand in 1963 when it announced its (?recognition) of the existing borders and its respect for these borders and the situation arising from them.

He stressed that they want to use these maneuvers to deny Egypt's leadership. He said: But I say to them that no matter how much oil or money they have, no one can take Egypt's place in the region because Egypt's people, army, institutions, universities, intellectuals, and scientists give it strength. He added: If their [Iraqi leadership's] goal is to be a superpower by the year 1992 as they say, we all want this as well [as heard], but never at the expense of the people of another Arab country. If they want a military force, we want this [for Iraq] also [as heard], but I would [first] take care of the people who offer their sons to the armed forces.

During the meeting, President Mubarak wondered what Egypt has done and said that all that Egypt has done is to declare its opposition to and denunciation of this aggression. He pointed out that had Egypt not done so, the entire region might have become chaotic. He said that they put all this aside and focus on the arrival of foreign forces in the region. However, I tell them that Saudi Arabia requested these forces to defend its territory and the places that are holy to all Arabs and Muslims. One would request assistance from the devil to defend one's land and people.

President Mubarak emphasized his complete trust in his sons of the armed forces who always demonstrate an attitude that is respectable and honorable for all of us. He said: None are better than we are; we have great expertise, and everyone knows this and knows the true value of Egypt's armed forces. No wonder that when Iraq requested Arab forces it stipulated that they should not include Egyptian forces. This is significant, he said, adding: You all know your great value and the expertise that you acquired in defense of the Arab nation, and you know not to aggress against any part of this nation.

President Mubarak then said: It is strange that Kuwait offered Iraq approximately $19 billion during the eight-year war between Iraq and Iran, which ended in Iraq's complete withdrawal and acceptance of the Algiers agreement of 1975, which it had rejected at the start of the war. President Mubarak said: Egypt, during its five wars in defense of the nation, did not obtain half of this amount from all the Arab countries combined.

President Mubarak related the minute details of the crisis since it started, and the role played by certain Arab leaders and their allegations. He reasserted anew that he would not like to hurt any of them because there is nothing easier than name-calling and nothing harder than to be courteous. This is because one needs a great deal of self-control, and this is our lot. He said that in this crisis he followed the method of facing the people through the information media and the press, and telling them the truth as it is. He said that the truth is stronger than anything and can refute all allegations and lies. He said that all agreed to convene the Cairo summit and that he personally wanted the summit to save Iraqi face and for it to withdraw its forces from Kuwait before the entire world moves with all kinds of weapons to the region. Mubarak expressed his regret that they did not understand this and continued with their slanders and accusations. He said: Nonetheless, I am not inciting war in the region, as one of them alleged, because I know well what war is, and I quite understand its dimensions, reality, and consequences. However, if war is inevitable in defense of territory and sanctities, it will be God's will.

President Mubarak said that in the modern age we have never heard about a state swallowing up another one. As I said at the outset of the crisis, the whole world now stands against the aggressor country. If we stand on the side of Kuwait, he said, this stems from our principles, heritage, and civilization. Let everyone know, he added, that Kuwait is not currently providing us with aid; no one should say that we are assisting them in return for funds or anything of this sort. We are standing on the side of right and in defense of principles and lofty human values.

President Mubarak further said: If they are talking about distribution of wealth, we tell them that it was the blood and lives of our sons in the October War of 1973 that raised oil prices to $40 per barrel. This era continued from 1973 to 1980. Where was the principle of distribution of wealth during this period? And why did no one assist us during this time when we stood alone in rebuilding our infrastructure that was destroyed by repeated wars in defense of Arab rights?

At the end of his meeting, President Mubarak pointed to the message sent to him by President Saddam Husayn in which he said that he and President Mubarak are in the same position and reached the highest position in government, but that, as the Iraqi President said, Mubarak does not descend from royalty, whereas he descends from the Quraysh family, descendant of 'Ali Bin-Abu-Talib [son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad]. President Mubarak commented on this by saying: If Saddam boasts about his ancestry, suffice it to say that my ancestry is Egyptian. Egypt is a country of values and principles and, for this alone, the whole world stands with us and behind us. If they talk of religion, our country is one that adheres most to this great and tolerant religion, and we do not, as they do, don the garb of religion only in times of crisis.

### Cairo To Restrict Palestinians, Iraqis' Entry

*NC1509121290 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] The Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that the Egyptian government has decided to prevent Palestinians who have no Egyptian travel documents from entering the country. The Egyptian authorities will request Iraqi and Kuwaiti nationals to obtain an entry visa to Egypt.

### Additional Forces Dispatched to Saudi Arabia

*NC1709175790 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Egyptian Defense Ministry sources said that Egypt today sent the first batch of additional forces totaling 15,000 troops to Saudi Arabia to join another 5,000 Egyptian troops already there. The sources added that the additional forces, which are supported by tanks and other armored vehicles, will complete their deployment in Saudi Arabia within the next three days.

Egyptian Defense Minister Yusuf Sabri has stated that additional Egyptian forces will be sent to Saudi Arabia, but he did not specify how many there would be.

### AL-AHRAM Assesses Cheney, Bush Remarks

*NC1809080590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM notes that U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney's statement to the U.S. Congress that plans have been drawn up to attack strategic Iraqi targets demonstrates that the principle of Iraqi withdrawal and the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government continue to govern current U.S. policy.

In an editorial today, the newspaper says that if Iraq does not voluntarily begin a total, immediate, and unconditional withdrawal and allow the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate government, then it must be forced to do so. The paper says that this emphasizes the possibility of an offensive action.

AL-AHRAM adds that the Gulf's security and stability cannot be maintained, U.S. nationals abroad cannot be protected, and a new international order cannot be established if the current situation persists—a situation in which Kuwait is obliterated and the fate of Americans and other foreign nationals remains uncertain. The paper notes that Bush stressed in his message that the establishment of a new international order is not possible if large countries can swallow up smaller neighbors. AL-AHRAM says that all of the foregoing are signs that the United States will not allow the current situation to continue and will not begin to establish a new order while ignoring the continued Iraqi aggression. If it does so, it will lose all credibility, defeat its own objectives, and turn itself into a laughingstock.

The paper concludes its comment by saying that the situation is therefore approaching a stage where the United States will initiate action even if Saddam continues trying to avoid a clash after annexing Kuwait. The paper says that the reason is clear—it is imperative to strike at his original aggression and force him to disgorge what he has swallowed so that a new era of justice and peace can be established.

### Paper Views Bush-Saddam 'War of Rhetoric'

*NC1809090090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0624 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA)—Today's major Cairo dailies highlight President Husni Mubarak's meeting with the commanders of the armed forces and the combatant troops that will be dispatched to Saudi Arabia. These dailies dedicate their main headlines to President Mubarak's remarks during that meeting. The newspaper AL-AHRAM ran a headline saying: Egypt is strong with its people and army, and no one can deny its leadership in the region regardless of how much oil or money that person may have. [passage omitted]

In its commentary, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH discusses what it terms a war of rhetoric between U.S. President George Bush and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, a reference to Bush's message that was aired on Iraqi television and Saddam's reaction to it.

The newspaper says that in his message, Bush calmly stated several facts. Among these is that the Iraqi people are the main losers in any confrontation because of the devastating consequences of such a war and the fact that Iraq is losing $20 billion a year because of the discontinuation of its oil exports.

The paper says that in contrast to Bush's tone, Saddam's reply was a nervous and violent one. Saddam accused Bush of wanting to become a world dictator and to drive a wedge between the Iraqi people and its leadership. Saddam accused the United States and Israel of triggering the war between Iraq and Iran and of scheming to keep that war going for years.

The paper asks: If Bush and Saddam's statements showed aversion to resolving the crisis by war, does that mean that matters will be confined to this war of rhetoric while diplomatic efforts to reach a peaceful settlement forge ahead, or will the war of rhetoric serve as a mere accompaniment to the continuous preparations for a military solution?

### Belgian Defense Minister, Delegation Depart

*NC1709150890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1306 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)—Belgian Defense Minister Guy Coeme and the delegation accompanying him left Cairo for Paris this afternoon at the end of a two-day official visit.

During his stay in Egypt, he held talks with General Yusuf Sabri abu-Talib, commander in chief of the armed forces and minister of defense and war production, on ways to promote military cooperation between the two countries and on Belgium's contribution to transporting Egyptians returning from Kuwait and Iraq.

He was seen off at Cairo Airport by Staff Major General Mahmud Fu'ad Ahmad, commander of the central military zone.

A large Belgian media delegation comprising representatives of Belgian radio, television, news agency, and newspapers, also left Cairo this afternoon at the end of a one-day visit, during which it accompanied the Belgian defense minister on his visit to Egypt.

### Iraqi Military Attache Ends Duty, Departs

*NC1709183390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1810 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)—Colonel Najah 'Abdallah Sultan, Iraqi military attache, left Cairo for Baghdad via Amman today at the conclusion of his tour of duty in Cairo.

### Sidqi Meets on Cooperation With Kuwaiti Banks

*NC1709204790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi held a meeting this evening. The meeting was attended by Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning; Dr. Salah Hamid, governor of the central bank; Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; Dr. Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy; Dr. Muhammad al-Razzaz, minister of finance; Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation; and the heads of the al-Ahli, Misr, and Cairo Banks.

After the meeting, Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said that the discussions dealt with the facilities Egyptian banks are providing to citizens of fraternal Arab states, particularly Kuwaiti citizens, in order to make their stay in Egypt easier.

The discussions also dealt with cooperation between the Egyptian banks and the Kuwaiti banks that have transferred their activities abroad, as well as with Egypt's hosting of the financial fund organizations that had been operating in Kuwait and its eagerness for these funds to continue their activities.

### Minister Leaves for IMF, World Bank Meetings

*NC1809094790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0857 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA)—Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, left Cairo this morning for London en route to Washington to attend the joint annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank.

Prior to his departure, Dr. al-Janzuri said that the Egyptian delegation to the meetings includes Central Bank Governer Dr. Salah Hamid; Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development; and Dr. Maurice Makramallah, minister of state for international cooperation.

Dr. al-Janzuri said that the purpose of the Egyptian delegation's visit is to resume negotiations with the IMF concerning Egyptian debts. The Egyptians, he said, will meet IMF and World Bank officials to continue the talks that started during a visit to Cairo by an IMF delegation.

Dr. al-Janzuri said that the World Bank and the IMF will examine the economic impact of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait as well as financial assistance to the countries most severely hit by that invasion, namly, Egypt, Turkey, and Jordan.

Dr. al-Janzuri said that Egypt will submit a report on the size of Egypt's economic loses because of the current Gulf crisis.

## Libya

### Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Trade Union Officials

*LD1609234490*

[Editorial report] Tripoli Television Service in Arabic at 2007 GMT on 16 September carried a recording of a meeting between Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and trade union officials in an unidentified town. Al-Qadhdhafi opened the meeting by asking those present whether they thought the nominations were fair. He then invited them to ask him questions. In response to questions, al-Qadhdhafi said professionals and craftsmen should be encouraged to join trade unions relevant to their professions. He stressed the importance of people's authority, the need for collective decisionmaking, and implementation of the Green Book. Al-Qadhdhafi proposed that the administration of trade unions should be based on the theory of people's authority, and that elections must be held in a true democratic fashion.

Al-Qadhdhafi went on to point out that 16 September is a sad day because on that day in 1931 Libyan nationalist leader 'Umar al-Mukhtar was executed. He criticized Italy for its colonialist behavior, and then France as well. He said he told an unnamed Arab leader that colonialism is always present. He said he predicted the United States might put troops in Saudi Arabia. He goes on to say that it is right for the poor to rebel against the rich.

Al-Qadhdhafi then raised the issue of religion and political parties. He said the latter are not allowed because people's power must prevail. He said that those who exploit religion for power will be destroyed; anyone seeking to put traditional religious teaching in question is a heretic.

Al-Qadhdhafi then returned to the issues of people's authority. He said all workers of a given sector should manage that sector. The meeting concluded at 2229 GMT.

### Culture Secretary Meets East European Envoys

*LD1709144390 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture met this morning with Pogos Akopov, USSR ambassador in the great Jamahiriyah. Discussions during the meeting covered ways for developing cultural and information cooperation and exploring new prospects in the field of information and culture for serving the cultural objectives and interests of the two friendly peoples of the USSR and the great Jamahiriyah.

The secretary also met in Tripoli today with (Jensis Lafkanir), Bulgarian ambassador to the great Jamahiriyah, who affirmed his country's eagerness to develop cultural relations between the two countries and to bolster them in a manner serving the objectives and interests of the two friendly countries. He also affirmed the importance of exchanging cultural delegations and written visual information and the holding of cultural weeks in the great Jamahiriyah and Bulgaria.

The secretary also met in Tripoli today with the Polish ambassador to the great Jamahiriyah. The meeting discussed ways for developing cultural and information cooperation between the two countries and exploring new prospects for culture and information serving the objectives and interests of the great Jamahiriya and Poland.

## Tunisia

### Trade Unionists To Boycott U.S., Other Vessels

*JN1809080390 Baghdad INA in English 1520 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Tunis, Sep 17, INA—General Federation of Tunisian Trade Unions decided to comprehensively boycott the American, French, Italian and British vessels and planes coming from and to Tunisia for four hours daily.

Mr. Abdelsalam Jarad [name as received] assistant secretary general of the Federation referred that this measure came to counter the American and Western threats against Iraq nation and its Islamic sanctities.

### New Governors of Sfax, Seliana Sworn In

*LD1709175390 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] An official ceremony was held this morning during which Mohamed ben Saad and Sadok Marzouk, who have been appointed governors of Sfax and Seliana respectively, were sworn in before President Zine el Abidine ben Ali. [passage omitted]

## Bahrain

### Prime Minister Wants 'Quick End' to Occupation

*JN1809092790 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] London, Sept 17 (GNA) Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah has expressed hope for a quick end to the occupation of Kuwait and that the Iraqi leadership responds to the voice of wisdom and withdraws its forces to save the region from the risks of a destructive war in which the Iraqi military machine and people would be its first victims.

In an interview with the London-based 'AL HAYAH' newspaper, Shaykh Khalifah expressed confidence that the Kuwaiti legal government will return to Kuwait and that Kuwait will be liberated in any way.

He pointed out that the scheme according to which Kuwait was attacked, would not have stopped if Saudi Arabia had not moved to save the region.

The Bahraini premier expressed sorrow over what befalled the Kuwaiti people of displacement and loot, saying that Bahrain is taking care of 7000 Kuwaiti citizens in cooperation with the Kuwaiti government and they are treated as Bahrainis to benefit from educational, medical and social insurance services.

The Bahraini prime minister clarified that Bahrain is in constant contact with the Kuwaiti legal government represented in H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah.

Regarding the presence of foreign military forces in the Gulf, Shaykh Khalifah said that there was a Gulf, Arab and international reaction towards the catastrophe which inflicted Kuwait, and the military presence from the world countries came in implementation to U.N. Security Council resolutions.

That also emanated from the "conviction that what happened is not to continue so that the law of the jungle does not rule the relations among the human beings," Shaykh Khalifah said.

He stressed that the multinational forces in the Gulf came in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and if Iraq withdrew there will be no need for them to stay any longer.

## Kuwait

### Refugees Say Iraqi Troops Detained Men

*NC1709174390 Paris AFP in English 1657 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Khafji, Saudi Arabia, Sept 17 (AFP)—Iraqi troops on Monday detained all Kuwaiti men aged 17 to 30 as they tried to leave the country and enter Saudi Arabia at a border post here, refugees told AFP. The troops, who on Saturday unexpectedly opened the border here to all Kuwaitis wishing to leave, early Monday began stopping young Kuwaiti men six kilometers (four miles) from the frontier, allowing only women, children and men over 30 to cross, witnesses said.

Several women, after passing the border here in northeastern Saudi Arabia, charged that the Iraqi forces had threatened the detainees and had provided no explanation for the measure. They said some 300 young Kuwaitis had been stripped of their identity papers and separated from their families, who were not told if the detainees would be allowed to enter Saudi Arabia at a later time.

Saudi officials earlier Monday said some 6,000 Kuwaiti families had fled to Saudi Arabia since Saturday, after being forced to turn over their identity papers to Iraqi troops. A senior Kuwaiti official meanwhile appealed to his fellow citizens not to leave the country, warning of "Iraqi plans to erase the Kuwaiti identity," the Kuwaiti News Agency KUNA reported.

"The occupation forces are trying to crush the morale of the Kuwaitis by creating a climate of terror, especially by the summary execution of members of the reistance in order to force Kuwaitis to leave their country," said the official who asked not to be named. He appealed to his fellow citizens to "resist the Iraqi occupation and to fight until the last Kuwaiti."

### Iraq Said To Appropriate 10 Kuwaiti Airplanes

*NC1709143290 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 17 (AFP)—Iraqi Airways on Monday appropriated 10 passenger aircraft belonging to the Kuwaiti national carrier, which according to press reports here has been dissolved by the Baghdad Government. Iraqi Airways Director Nur al-Din Safi Hammadi told Agence France-Presse that his company had taken possesion of eight Kuwait Airways Airbus 300-310s and two Boeing 767s.

The Kuwaiti carrier was formally dissolved by a decree September 9 from the country's decision-making Revolutionary Command Council, the text of which appeared Monday in the newspaper AL-QADISIYAH. Mr. Hammadi said Iraqi Airways also intended to appropriate the 10 other Kuwaiti airliners that were out of the country on August 2 when Iraqi troops took control of Kuwait.

The merger of the two companies, will create the largest airline in the Middle East, he said. "We are trying to unify our offices abroad." Iraqi Airways at present owns no Airbus jets but ordered five three months ago at a cost of 500 million dollars.

Iraqi and Arab pilots "will help get these planes operational," according to Mr. Hammadi. At present, Kuwait

Airways personnel is 80 per cent non-Arab, he said, adding that the staff could be all Iraqi within a year.

Iraqi Airways has meanwhile been approached by the governments of the United States, Britain and India for the evacuation of their nationals. "We have 10 flights planned for Bombay, one for London and one for Washington," Mr. Hammadi said. "We are just awaiting the green light from the authorities in these countries before the flights are organized."

### Amir Receives Tunisian, Turkish Leaders' Messages

*JN1609070190 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Al-Ta'if, Sept 15 (GNA)—H.H. (His Highness) The Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah received a message from Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

The message was delivered by Tunisian Culture and Information Minister Ahmed Khaled during a reception by the Amir of Kuwait here today .

The amir of Kuwait also received a message from Turkish President Turgut Ozal, delivered by the Turkish ambassador to Kuwait, radio Kuwait said today.

### Amir Meets With Turkish Envoy in Al-Ta'if

*LD1509163590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1510 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] Al-Ta'if, 15 Sep (SPA)—[passage omitted] The Amir of Kuwait today received the ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Kuwait, Mr. Guner Oztek, who handed him a message from President Ozal of Turkey.

## Oman

### Qatari Heir Apparent Arrives in Muscat 16 Sep

*JN1709162890 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] At the invitation of the Sultanate's government [words indistinct], His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense, arrived in Muscat today on a three-day visit to the Sultanate. [passage omitted].

### Confers With Sultan

*JN1809082590 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id this afternoon received at al-Hisn Palace in Salalah His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minster, and the accompanying delegation, which is currently visiting the country.

At the beginning of the meeting, his highness the Qatari heir apparent and defense minister conveyed the greetings of His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani to his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id. He also conveyed the amir's sincerest wishes of good health and happiness and the Qatari people's true feelings of love and appreciation for the Omani people and their wishes for more progess and prosperity under the wise leaderhip of His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id.

During the meeting, they discussed the strong brotherly relations existing between the two sisterly countries in the various fields in the interests of both peoples in addition to the latest developments in the Gulf in light of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The Omani-Qatari viewpoints were in full agreement on the issues discussed by his majesty, may God protect him, and the Qatari heir apparent and defense minister. [passage omitted]

## Qatar

### Tunisian Culture Minister Departs Doha 14 Sep

*JN1409135490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] Doha, 14 Sep (WAKH)—Ahmed Khaled, Tunisian minister of culture and information, left Doha today following a two-day visit to the State of Qatar. During the visit, the Tunisian minister conveyed a message to Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani from Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali concerning developments in the region and relations between the two countries.

## Saudi Arabia

### Foreign Minister Comments on Soviet Ties, Gulf

*JN1709194490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal before his departure for Moscow by Antoine Abu-Samrah; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-Samrah] Was the visit preplanned or made on the spur of the moment? If the visit was timed to take place now, are you now in greater need of the Soviet Union than in the past, or is it that the interests of the two countries dictated a resumption of ties at the present time?

[Al-Faysal] As for timing, there has been intensive and continuous contacts between the two countries over the past two years. It is not something that came up today. There have been contacts, and I believe more than contacts—a coincidence of opinions on numerous issues on the international front. There is also a basic reality that confirms the importance of a meeting and consultations within this framework, specifically that the Soviet Union has had and continues to have an effective, fundamental role in forging a perspective on the new world order, with the superpower rivalry out of the way now. President Gorbachev's and the Soviet Union's contribution to this world order makes us in this country appreciate this role and relate to it. Accordingly, the Soviet Union can contribute meaningfully to a resolution of our issues. We are happy to see relations and contacts between the two countries develop to the level they have reached so they may become instrumental in addressing an all-important and extremely dangerous issue, namely the disaster that we are experiencing in the Middle East.

[Abu-Samrah] Is the Soviet foreign minister scheduled to visit the Kingdom?

[Al-Faysal] Without a doubt, his excellency will be welcome to visit, and I would be honored to invite him.

[Abu-Samrah] The Gulf crisis may be one of the most serious the region and the world have experienced since World War II. There are several proposals and initiatives to resolve the crisis peacefully, as is being said. There are Arab initiatives. Are Arab-based initiatives on the agenda when the Arab world is divided itself, and given the boycott we see of the Arab League, for instance? Is there a realistic Arab initiative now, or are they just trying to escape blame?

[Al-Faysal] In the trend to find an Arab solution to an Arab problem, there are two elements: Claims are being made that there is a dispute between Iraq and Kuwait over borders, economic interests, etc. On the other hand, however, there is a physical reality. There has been a disaster, inasmuch as there has been an invasion, an occupation, an annexation. Within this framework, there is no way we can accept that Arab and international criteria to resolve this crisis exist. The Arab criterion cannot possibly sanction the occupation of one Arab country by another Arab country. The Arab criterion cannot possibly sanction the annexation of one Arab country the way Kuwait has been annexed. The Arab criterion cannot justify the destruction, the violation of sanctities, the plunder of ordinary people's money rather than state funds. At the same time we say internationally that we do not accept occupation; we do not accept that force can be the determining factor; we do not accept annexation. Our being Arabs does not make us accept dealing with each other according to criteria inferior to those we accept in the international arena. If there is a genuine Arab approach it must be that the criteria guiding intra-Arab relations must be stronger and superior from a civil standpoint to any criteria that we accept in the international arena. Where is the Arab solution? Have any of the Arab parties that have come up with their own initiatives the assurance that Iraq is agreeable to withdrawal from Kuwait and the reinstatement of legitimacy there? If so, resolving the problem in an Arab context so as to end the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait will find total support across the Arab homeland, not least from this country.

[Abu-Samrah] Are we to understand, Your Highness the Amir, that Arab initiatives are made just to escape blame, and amount to little more?

[Al-Faysal] I don't know. The subject was studied extensively at the last Arab League meeting in Cairo. All who were there wanted to hear what the Arab solutions are, since we in the Arab arena have our own structures that we have subscribed to and in which we are members, and that is the Arab League. Our demand was that if there exists an Arab solution let it be put forward in its Arab forum, and that is the Arab League. But, we regret to say that we have not seen in the Arab arena a definite plan, and the only country that made a proposal from an Arab standpoint was Libya. We are, therefore, happy that Libya has taken this line in floating its ideas and attended Arab meetings where they might be aired. But the other plans that were proposed we read about in the newspapers. There were envoys who did not visit all the Arab states, and there were more international than Arab contacts. A decision was made at the Arab League that if there are Arab solutions on the table, these must be debated in the Arab arena before they are given cover with their designation as the proposed Arab solutions. We hope the brothers who were not allowed to participate in the Arab League meetings will reconsider so the Arab League can reconvene. And if there are proposals, let them not be mere proposals made to escape blame, as you put it, but serious plans to address a key, urgent, and important issue as the one at hand.

[Abu-Samrah] As for a peaceful solution, as is being said, of the Gulf crisis: Assuming the current measures will prove fruitless, and the status quo persists, don't you fear that the status quo will assume permanence? That is, the final annexation by Iraq of Kuwait?

[Al-Faysal] These are assumptions. I don't think the occupation of Kuwait can be accepted as a fait accompli. We have an international stance unprecedented in the history of the contemporary world. Subsequently, the fait accompli is that the entire world community stands opposed to this occupation. This is the fait accompli that will eventually lead to a solution of the crisis.

[Abu-Samrah] Don't you fear that Baghdad may start something risky that may turn the dispute from an Iraqi-Arab to an Israeli-Arab one, in which Baghdad attacks Israel, thus shifting it to an Arab-Israeli conflict?

[Al-Faysal] I don't think we can go into these assumptions. As things stand, we do not have an Iraqi occupation of Israel, but an Iraqi occupation of Kuwait—an Arab, sisterly state that struggled alongside Iraq over many years. If that is the means to get to Israel, we must then examine Iraq's motives and protestations that it is standing against Israel. Consider newspaper interviews in which Iraqi officials of the highest echelons state that they are not planning any action against Israel. Let's leave this aside, though, and consider only what Iraq has done, and that is the occupation of Kuwait. Where is Israel and where is Kuwait?

[Abu-Samrah] Don't you fear, Your Highness the Prince, that the situation will persist, in which case the economy of the region may be put on a war footing? I mean the economy of the Kingdom and the other states of the region and further afield being affected by the situation?

[Al-Faysal] All the time questions are asked assuming that war will break out. The war has already started. Armies have conquered another country. Iraq is not being occupied or threatened by any party. What happened was that Iraq launched a military attack on a state. It did not attack it [word indistinct] but militarily, and that state was swept by military forces that annexed it. The question is not whether there is a threat of war breaking out; the war did break out. However, the question that must be asked now is: What next? Will Iraq comply with the Arab, Islamic and international will and quit Kuwait, or will it embark on further provocative acts that may plunge this region into an unwanted conflict which will bring no dividends to any Arab party in the region? The question must not be put in this country; it must be posed in Iraq.

[Abu-Samrah] It is said that there was a probability before the war started [as heard], and it was debated at the Baghdad summit; namely, writing off the Gulf debts to Iraq and helping Iraq out of its economic crisis. Had this transpired, would what happened have been averted?

[Al-Faysal] Within this framework, many excuses have been made to justify Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. No case may be made for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, using Iraq's justifications. Whatever logic was advanced to justify the invasion is indefensible. The Arab states, particularly the Gulf states, have fulfilled their duties toward Iraq. If there were countries that failed to do their duty toward Iraq, they may be among those who are now apologists for Iraq, rather than Gulf states. The Gulf states, without exception, sided with, supported, backed, and assisted Iraq in a big way. I do not think that a single Iraqi will deny this fact. If Iraq were now to solicit support of Arab states for an Iraqi effort to build itself into a strong and able country economically, politically, and even militarily....[changes thought] If it had not conquered Kuwait, or if it would consent to quit Kuwait and the reinstatement of legitimacy, all the Gulf states would support it and take its side.

What happened pained us more than any other country because we were among those countries that very sincerely and selflessly stood by the side of Iraq, because we were among the countries that supported Iraq politically and militarily so it could attain the power and might it is now enjoying in the Arab arena, and because we were fully convinced and confident that Iraqi power would serve all Arabs, that the Iraqi Army was a protective shield for all Arabs. Regrettably, the stab was strong and hard for this country, the citizen of this country, and the leadership of this country. It was hard to find out that this country and this army, which we supported steadfastly, came to stab us in the back.

[Abu-Samrah] Is it possible that an alliance will emerge from the recent close relations between Baghdad and Tehran to threaten the region? How do you assess your relationship—the Gulf relationship in general—with Tehran now?

[Al-Faysal] Since the eruption of the Iraq-Iran war we sought to end it as soon as possible. Consequently, there is nothing right now to make us regret the end of the Iraq-Iran war and the attainment of a permanent solution between the two neighborly countries. This is a natural stance taken by the Gulf Cooperation Council states and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. However, what is surprising is that Iraq rushed to make this concession only after it invaded Kuwait. This casts doubts on Iraq's motives and intentions: Is Iraq serious about ending this problem or is it dealing with it this way because it now has another problem, which is the invasion of Kuwait? Should it not be the Iraqi individual and not anyone else in the world who should answer this question? An eight-year war destroyed everything in both Iraq and Iran. Its victims were hundreds of thousands of people and other hundreds of thousands whose lives were ruined due to this war. Matters returned to the the way they were and all that was rejected in the past under all pretexts was accepted. What was then the reason for the war and its continuation for eight years? And if the problem of Kuwait ends the way Iraq wants, will Iraq repeat the past or attack another country? These questions arise. If the solution came outside the present conflict, outside the framework of attack on Kuwait, the world's understanding would be clear and unblemished. But confusing things as is now the case is what is worrisome in this regard. As for what this development will lead to, Iran is a state that has its own ideas and thoughts, and it is an important state in the region and has its own responsibilities toward the region—as a neighbor of the region. We hope that the policies of states, particularly those existing in the region, will be conducive to security and stability in the region and not to undermining them.

[Abu-Samrah] Before we end this interview, I would like to thank Your Highness the Prince and ask a final question. If Iraq remains in Kuwait, which will have the greater prospects, war or peace?

[Al-Faysal] I cannot but answer with hope. The hope is that Iraq will respond to the dictates of conscience, brotherhood, Arabism, and Islam, and withdraw from Kuwait and let things return to the way they were.

[Abu-Samrah] Thank you, Your Highness the Prince.

### Soviet Coverage on Rapprochement With Saudis

*WA1809161390*

For USSR coverage of Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal's visit to Moscow, including talks with USSR President Gorbachev and USSR Foreign Minister

Eduard Shevardnadze on establishing diplomatic relations, please see the Near East & South Asia section of the 17 September Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

## Fahd Addresses Council of Ministers on Gulf

*LD1709193290 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, chaired today's Council of Ministers session held in al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

Following the session, his excellency the information minister, Ali al-Sha'ir told SPA [Saudi Press Agency]: Within the framework of the continuous and close interest in the development of Arab and international events, especially in the shadow of the current situation witnessed by the Arab and Islamic nation since the criminal Iraqi aggression on the sisterly State of Kuwait, and in light of reports related to the present events and the future expectations of the Arab Gulf crisis, the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz first addressed the Council of Ministers about the critical situation facing the Arab region in the wake of the Iraqi forces' invasion of the State of Kuwait, and about the matters and measures resulting from this unjust aggression.

After hearing the views and ideas expressed by their excellencies the ministers regarding the situation in general, King Fahd briefly addressed the council about the contacts and discussions which he—may God protect him—held with a number of high-ranking officials and envoys who visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the past few days. [passage omitted] The king said that all the officials and envoys whom we met in the recent past expressed their countries' and governments' support for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the defensive measures it has adopted to confront the Iraqi forces along the Kingdom's border, and stressed their countries' readiness to contribute to the strengthening of the Kingdom's defensive capabilities and to support its armed forces in repelling any unjust aggression.

The custodian of the two holy mosques reaffirmed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's gratitude to all the sisterly Arab, Islamic, and friendly countries which have responded to the Kingdom's request for the dispatch of forces and artillery to support the Saudi armed forces. He stressed the need for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of its legitimate rule under the leadership of the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, and the members of his government, as well as the withdrawal of Iraqi forces along the Kingdom's border. He stressed that the Kingdom, in line with its repeated declarations, can see no solution to the current crisis except through the realization of these just demands which safeguard the legitimate rights of the State of Kuwait, and safeguard security and stability in the region. [passage omitted]

## French Defense Minister Arrives in Jeddah

*LD1509002190 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] Jeddah 14 Sep (SPA)—French Defense Minister Mr. Jean Pierre Chevenement arrived in Jeddah this evening for a visit to the Kingdom.

His excellency was welcomed on his arrival at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Abd al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; General of the Aviation Salah al-Sudays, the commander of the western region; Staff Commodore Muhammad al-Ajlan, the commander of the King Faysal naval base; Sami Maqbul, the director-general of the King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport; Mr. Jacques Berniere, the French ambassador to the Kingdom; and a number of officials.

### Confers With Defense Minister

*LD1509153490 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, received in Jeddah today His Excellency French Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who is on a visit to the Kingdom.

After that, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz a meeting with His Excellency the French Defense Minister.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation, inspector general, and commander of the ground forces, and his highness the commander of the naval forces. The meeting was attended also by the delegation accompanying His Excellency Jean-Pierre Chevenement and French ambassador to the Kingdom Jacques Berniere.

### Meets With King Fahd

*LD1509213690 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2114 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Jeddah, 15 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, today received in his office at al-Salam palace French Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who handed the custodian of the two holy mosques a message from President Francois Mitterrand of France.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense, aviation, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, the personal adviser to King Fahd, Ibrahim al-Anqari, and the French ambassador to the Kingdom, Jacques Berniere.

### Speaks on 'Autonomy' of Forces

*LD1509203690 Paris Antenne 2 Television in French 1800 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who is currently in Saudi Arabia, has been entrusted by the Elysee with preaparing the ground for all the authorization France needs to enable the new units to arrive safe and sound. The first departures are expected next Tuesday. [Reporters] Jerome Bony and Christian Autain are in Saudi Arabia:

[Bony] The base in Yanbu, the bridgehead for the French military intervention in Saudi Arabia, is ready. This morning at 1000 when the inner cabinet was meeting at the Elysee, Defense Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement set foot on Saudi soil one month after his U.S. counterpart Dick Cheney. At the base we had just found out that the deployment of 42 combat helicopters transported by the Clemenceau was envisaged even before yesterday's affair of the abduction of French people in Kuwait. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Chevenement] Our forces are present on Saudi Arabian territory to show clearly that any new aggression provokes a response on our part, and it is our concern to make sure that this response is coherent. As we intend to retain our autonomy of movement, we have put in place the forces necessary so that we can act in an autonomous manner.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Defense Minister, you have never hidden your fears about this conflict, and even your reluctance, so what do you think of this situation today?

[Chevenement] I believe that France's strategy has been defined clearly by the president. It is that of an effective embargo designed to make Iraq give up, to lead Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait.

[Unidentified reporter] But a large contingent is more than an embargo, isn't it?

[Chevenement] Let us say that a decision has been made to strengthen our operation following a characteristic aggressive act that has led France once again to resort to the United Nations to reinforce the embargo and that has also led France to take the measures that you know about in regard to a certain number of diplomats and Iraqi nationals. [end recording]

[Bony] At this very moment Jean-Pierre Chevenement is talking with King Fahd about the details of this French intervention—the same Saudi king who accepted the principle of these interventions as long ago as 14 August.

### Concludes Visit

*LD1609103290 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1018 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 16 September SPA—French Defense Minister Mr. Jean-Pierre Chevenement and his accompanying delegation left Jeddah this morning after a visit of several days to Saudi Arabia. [passage omitted]

### Military Leader Receives French Counterpart

*LD1509184890 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] The chief of the General Staff, Staff General Muhammad al-Hammad, had a meeting today in his office with Gen. Maurice Schmitt, chief of staff of the French armed forces, who arrived in Riyadh earlier today.

The French military official also met His Royal Highness Staff Lieutenant General Khalid Bin Sultan Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, commander of the joint forces and the operations theater. His highness and the chief of staff of the French armed forces discussed a number of issues.

## United Arab Emirates

### President Sends Messages to Ozal, Thatcher

*JN1809100590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0535 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, has sent a message to Turkish President Turgut Ozal on the situation in the Gulf.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid has also sent a letter to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the developments in the region. WAM [EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY] has said that the two messages were delivered through diplomatic channels in reply to two messages his highness received from the Turkish president and the British prime minister.

### Bangladesh President Phones Zayid on Crisis

*JN1809122590 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], today received a telephone call from His Excellency President Hussain Mohammad Ershad of the Republic of Bangladesh.

During the telephone conversation, they exchanged views on the developments of the current situation in the Gulf region.

## Elderly, Sick French Nationals Leave Baghdad

*JN1709142090 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1409 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] In implementation of President Saddam Husayn's orders to allow the elderly and sick French guests in Iraq to travel to their country at will, a number of sick and elderly French nationals left Baghdad this afternoon.

In statements to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, the departing guests of Iraq emphasized the good hospitality and the full care they received from the Iraqi people and leadership during their stay. They said President Saddam Husayn's initiative to allow them to travel or stay in Iraq was a humanitarian initiative that confirms Iraq's goodwill in achieving comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

## Tribunal Sets Bush Trial in Baghdad 15 Oct

*JN1409160190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Sep*

[Excerpt] The popular tribunal for the trial of U.S. President George Bush will hold its first session in Baghdad on 15 October. The trial will last four days. This was announced by Hamid Salih al-Rawi, doyen of Iraqi lawyers, to INA. He said the date and venue of the tribunal was decided during the meeting held yesterday by the joint preparatory committee, which is made up of the Iraqi Bar and Jurists Unions and the Iraqi Human Rights Committee. [passage omitted]

## Bush Finds 'No Ears' Among Arabs, Muslims

*JN1809111590 Baghdad INA in English 0930 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 18, INA—The BAGHDAD OBSERVER said here today that the US President twisted the fact that he and his allies saw in Iraq's legitimate restoration of Kuwait as a pretext to bring over their fleets and troops to the land of Muslim sanctities. U.S and other foreign forces claim that they are in Saudi Arabia to protect it from alleged Iraqi invasion, which is a sheer lie.

America came to the Gulf region without any delay to occupy Arab oilfields and to protect "legitimacy" while it has kept the Middle East issue with no settlement for over 42 years now. During this period, the United States has used the veto 60 times to foil bids by the world community to force Israel out of the occupied territories in Palestine and Lebanon.

The Iraqi daily said the U.S President lied, as well, when he said that the anti-Iraq "Security Council" resolutions were fair at a time when everybody knows that these resolutions where formulated in the White House. He also wanted the world to believe that the Arab rulers who followed his imperialist policy represented the whole Arab people.

Such are the remarks made by a man who has taken to lies to present his ill-intentioned policy, lies which find no ears, as Arabs and Muslims have rallied behind Iraq and its leadership in rejecting the US aggression.

## Commentary on 'Grim Destiny' Facing U.S. Troops

*LD1609050690 Baghdad International Service in English 2000 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Ever since they were deployed in Saudi Arabia U.S. servicemen have been raising many complaints of hardships they suffer in an area where they face a grim destiny. Disgruntled soldiers have complained about the scorching desert heat and the hazards caused by scorpions and snakes, the only creatures which can accommodate to life there. Many soldiers have expressed that they were there against their will and have voiced their dissatisfaction with the administration's decision to push them into an inferno for the sake of oil interests.

In many states of America there have been demonstrations protesting against the deployment of the U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia and the Arab gulf and warning against the consequences of a United States aggression on Iraq. Recalling the tragedies of the Vietnam war many Americans have warned that the U.S. intervention in the Gulf could lead to another catastrophe for America similar to that of Vietnam. The wounds of Vietnam have not healed yet, American protesters contend.

The United States lost tens of thousands of soldiers in the Vietnam war and tens of thousands of others were cripplied by the war, which left a scathing psychological impact on the American public. Military analysts have estimated that the United States could lose about 40,000 or more soldiers in case of war breaking out in the Gulf. Some analysts put a much higher figure for American losses in case of a war. These figures show a grim prospect for American soldiers deployed in the Gulf.

The financial cost of the U.S. deployment of large forces in the Arab Gulf has already started to pinch the U.S. Treasury. The U.S. President has appealed to his Western allies and other states to contribute to the gruesome cost of U.S. intervention in the Gulf.

## Solidarity Organization Denounces UN Resolutions

*JN1809092190 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept 17, INA—The Solidarity, Peace and Friendship Organization in Iraq denounced U.N. Security Council resolutions describing them as grave precedent in the history of the United Nations.

In a statement sent to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Organization confirmed that the U.S. Administration insisted on using the force for banning the Iraqi people from foodstuffs and medicine in contradiction to all international charters and laws.

It stressed that the council acted in a manner hostile to Iraq which exercised its normal right in unifying its land and people.

The message confirmed that America had refused President Saddam Husayn's peace initiative on August 12th last on establishing peace in the region and urging the UN secretary general to exert efforts for ending the military build-ups in the region and lifting the illegal blockade being imposed on Iraq.

## Opposition Leaders Meet in Damascus

*PM1409111790 London AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 13 Sep 90 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Iraqi Opposition, With All Its Groups, Meets in Damascus to Discuss Formation of Unified National Front To Topple Saddam"—formerly Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI]

[Excerpt] Damascus, AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI—Over the past few days a number of Iraqi opposition symbols and leaders have arrived in the Syrian capital to hold extensive meetings with a view to forming a unified front for the Iraqi opposition, to include all opposition groups of different inclinations. This is the first time these groups have met since Saddam Husayn assumed power in Baghdad.

An opposition source told AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI that among the symbols and leaders in Damascus are 'Aziz Muhammad, secretary of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee; Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan; and Dr. Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. Shaykh Muhammad al-Asifi, official spokesman of the Islamic Call [al-da'wah] Party; Muhammad Taqiyy al-Madrasi, supreme guide of the Islamic Action Organization in Iraq; and Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, are expected to arrive within the next two days. The Iraqi opposition source said the principal objective of the talks is to form a unified national front whose task is to rescue the Iraqi people from the calamities of a destructive war, namely by toppling the Saddam Husayn regime and declaring a democratic people's national government.

The source added that the formation of a government-in-exile, to include the three most prominent opposition leaders opposed to Saddam Husayn, could be announced before the end of September. [passage omitted]

## Mubarak Statements to Troops Called 'Lies'

*JN1709212290 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Commenting on statements by Husni [Egyptian President Mubarak] during his meeting today with the commanders of the Armed Forces and the unit he has decided to send to Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], the INA Arab Affairs editor says:

The first of Husni's lies is his claim that he has sent Egyptian troops to defend an Arab country because of the threats made by another Arab country; he means Saudi Arabia. He knows perfectly well that Saudi Arabia is not threatened by any Arab country. If he means Iraq, then Iraq has never threatened Saudi Arabia and it does not threaten it now.

In fact, the world knows he has sent those troops to Saudi Arabia to stand alongside the U.S. and Zionist troops, which threaten Iraq with aggression and desecrate the land of Hejaz and Najd [Saudi Arabia], the land of the two holy mosques, and to give the presence of U.S. troops a false Arab legitimacy. All this has taken place at the request of the U.S. Administration, from which Husni takes his orders and with which he is connected by a diabolical alliance, whose lines were drawn up at Camp David.

In his statements, Husni claims that the situation should be contained and prevented from erupting. All facts, however, confirm that Husni and his advisers are playing the role of the instigator, pressing for a quick military blow and aggression against Iraq. This contradicts the simplest of pan-Arab principles and values.

Husni has claimed that Iraq only levels accusations and abuses against him. It seems that he has forgotten that the Egyptian media, particularly the radio and the press, have systemically leveled obscene vituperations at Iraq, and that the Egyptian citizen—be he military or civilian—is well aware of this. The Iraqi media do not level abuse at anyone, because they are principled organs guided by noble ethics and principles, but they have to tell the truth and uncover the treason of agents and traitors.

Moreover, the claim that these troops have gone to defend the Islamic sanctities cannot stand in the face of the irrefutable facts because the sanctities are only threatened by the Americans and the foreign mercenary troops that stand on their side. Husni has sent troops from Egypt's army to side with these forces. We are fully confident, however, that Egypt's Army will not fight the al-Qadisiyah army, and that, while standing on the land of Najd and Hejaz, the zeal of the Egyptian soldier will arouse his chivalry to avenge his dignity and pan-Arab values and his national history, which is being violated by Husni and the betrayer of the two holy mosques. The Egyptian soldier, moreover, will direct his rifle at the chests of the Americans, instead of the chest of his comrade-in-arms, the Iraqi soldier.

Our aim behind all that we have done toward Egypt was not to neutralize it or to buy its silence, as Husni claimed. For we find a great difference between Egypt and Husni and his actions. What we have tried to do is deliver Egypt from the chains of Camp David and the Zionist entity so that it will return to lead the honorable pan-Arab action and to its genuine history, which dates back thousands of years, and which Husni is trying to defame by his deviations and totally succumbing to the U.S. scheme.

If Husni were truly concerned for Egypt and Arab solidarity and values, he would not have pushed things in that direction, appeased Fahd who called the foreign forces that occupy the Muslims's sacred land in Najd and Hejaz, and began to wait for a chance to aggress on Iraq and its pan-Arab [word indistinct].

Those whom Husni is defending are the same people who denied Egypt a loaf of bread and refused to pay the last installment due on the price of imported wheat, while Iraq had it on behalf of Egypt without being asked to do so. Those whom Husni is defending are the people who have stolen the wealth of the nation, filled their pockets with illegitimate gains, and often done injustice to the honor of the nation and Egypt's honor and values. So, they deserve [word indistinct] and God's punishment and a curse to go to hell—and what a terrible destiny that is.

## Ulema Call on Muslims To Boycott Conference

*JN1609084790 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] The commission of senior Iraqi ulema issued a call today urging Islamic societies, commissions, organizations, intellectuals, and missionaries all over the world to embrace holy jihad and confront infidelity and injustice so as to deliver the two holy mosques from captivity and occupation. The following is the text of the call:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A call from the commission of senior Iraqi ulema to the Islamic societies, commissions, organizations, intellectuals, and missionaries all over the world.

O men of intellect and Islamic missionaries. O ulema, heirs of the prophets. O zealous people of the Islamic creed: These are the assemblies of infidelity and polytheism; these are the forces of injustice, evil, and world Judaism; here is this spiteful Crusader which massed its armies and fleets. Having desecrated the land of holy places and sanctities, the place where the prophet was inspired, and the place where the Koran was revealed, the Crusaders are coming wave after wave seeking to decimate your Muslim brothers. They are seeking injustice, aggression, and destruction of the earth. They want to humiliate your kinsfolk and families. They have forgotten their differences and made a malignant, obnoxious pledge with the devils and the pharaohs to tear asunder your present and future.

Moreover, the great catastrophe, corruption, and infidelity is that these unfaithful assemblies should come at the frank invitation of the rulers of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], who installed themselves, falsely and unjustly, guardians over our religion and the sharia [Islamic law] of Muhammad, may the peace and blessings of God be upon him. They have permitted themselves to support the assemblies of infidelity and massing of Crusaders, renounced their religion and sanctities, sought to hatch plots against their nation, and brought those who do not fear God to aggress against it. They have also violated the constant principles of religion and the rules of sharia and the consensus of juristic ulema by allowing sacrilege of the land of sanctities and holy places and seeking protection of infidels.

In pursuance of their infidelity and in continuation of their treason and injustice, they have agreed to invite some Islamic figures to a conference which they intend to hold in the vicinity of the old house [Mecca] so as to present a document which justifies their infidelity and wrongdoing and injustice to the nation and its sanctities, and justifies to the infidels and polytheists the crime of occupying the land of the Arabian Peninsula and the Crusader aggression on Muslims.

They are doing all this in the name of the true religion of Islam—the religion of dignity which does not approve the humiliation and disgrace of its followers, and the religion of [word indistinct] which made it mandatory on its followers to confront tyrants and polytheists.

They want the economic air, land, and sea blockade, which is imposed on your Muslim brothers in Iraq, to wipe out Iraq and kill children, women, and the elderly by treachery and perfidy. The infidels of Quraysh [infidel tribe in Islam] preceded them in this iniquitous action when they imposed a blockade on the generous prophet, may the peace and blessings of God be upon him, and his generous followers. The rulers of Najd and Hezaj and the forces of oppression and corruption allied with them are duplicating the course of their ancestors and imposing a blockade on steadfast Iraq for no reason except that it has raised the voice of right to resonate in the face of Zionists who usurped lands, sanctities, and sacred places.

The duty mandated by sharia, the brotherliness in religion and creed, and the principle of advocating righteousness and forbidding iniquity, which is proved by the sharia and by reason, and which is actually manifest in the events and realities—all these mandate that you—brothers of Islam and faith, should raise the voice of denunciation of this conference which is aimed at legitimizing what is forbidden in your religion, by not participating in it or cooperating with those organizing it, and sacrificing [word indistinct] for the brothers who are closest to you by boycotting this conference.

Respond to the call of Islam. Rise up for holy jihad. It is a confrontation between right and wrong; a confrontation between faith and infidelity. Holy jihad is a duty on us, so as to deliver the two holy mosques from captivity and occupation.

## Kuwaiti Governorate Official on Services

*JN1509151590 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Comrade 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, has stated that the administrative and services organs in the Governorate of Kuwait are performing their activities and duties in an exceptional manner in order to secure services and basic needs.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in the Governorate of Kuwait, comrade 'Ali Hasan al-Majid explained that the services departments are performing their duties in the best possible manner and that foreign workers have been replaced by Iraqi workers to operate the service companies. He said that under his supervision, the competent organs are trying to secure foodstuffs for markets, consumer societies, and hotels, and that all state organs in the governorate are making every effort to keep the citizenry supplied and comfortable and to provide the basic needs. He pointed out that security prevails and that police centers and courts have registered no violations of the law.

He added that the authorities receive many citizens every day to attend to their demands. We also look into many other demands reaching us through the mail because of our responsibility as governor of the city of Kuwait.

He also stated that he feels a high sense of responsibility and readiness to confront the American and Zionist enemies, who have desecrated the pure Arab land and the Muslims' sanctities.

At the end of his statement, he pledged to leader President Saddam Husayn in the name of the workers in the Governorate of Kuwait that they will remain loyal soldiers and will be at his beck and call to defend great Iraq and repulse any aggression against it.

## 'Aziz, Cypriot Prime Minister Discuss Issues

*JN1509183690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Bgahdad, 15 Sep (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has received Cypriot Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou, who is on a visit to Iraq. They discussed developments in the region in addition to a number of issues of common concern.

The meeting was attended by the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, Iraq's nonresident ambassador to Cyprus, and his counterpart in Baghdad.

## Algeria's Ahmed Ben Bella Confers With Saddam

*JN1609065190 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0400 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn yesterday received former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella.

During the meeting, the talks dealt with the current regional situation and recent regional developments. Ahmed Ben Bella expressed his support for the Iraqi people and the Iraqi leadership in their just struggle against the imperialist threat. He also affirmed the support of the Arab masses, the struggling forces, and the faithful for Iraq's militant positions in this just and honorable battle.

His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn voiced his appreciation for the solidarity shown by Ahmed Ben Bella with Iraq. He also expressed pride in the positions taken by the Arab masses and their noble leaderships in support of Iraq's just battle in the face of the imperialist threats and aggression.

### Expresses Solidarity

*JN1709135890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)—Former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella has valued the humanitarian initiative His Excellency President Saddam Husayn announced on 2 August calling for the resolution of all regional problems and for averting the scourge of wars and other disasters.

In an interview on Baghdad television last night, Ben Bella said that the presence of U.S. troops in the holy lands and in the Arabian Gulf defies the nation's will and its spiritual feelings. He stated that the Arab nation has no choice but to meet this challenge. He expressed the solidarity of the Algerian people with the Iraqi people in their confrontation of the imperialist scheme which seeks to undermine the sovereignty of both Iraq and the Arab nation.

Ben Bella called for an Arab consensus to support Iraq and to express this solidarity in all fraternal and humanitarian ways. He also called for a unified plan to remove the aggression and end U.S. intervention in the region.

### Makes Statement, Departs

*JN1709163090 Baghdad INA in English 1000 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Sep 16, INA—Former President of Algeria Ahmed Ben Bella this morning left Baghdad ending a short visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Mr. Ben Bella confirmed his established conviction on Iraq's triumph in countering the imperialist-Zionist threats, which represents a victory of the entire Arab nation.

Mr. Ben Bella said that the mass cohesion with Iraq represented awakening of the Arab people for standing in one rank with Iraq in the face of the colonialist aggression against the Arab nation.

Mr. Ben Bella was seen off at the airport by Mr. 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice-chairman, and Minister of Information and Culture Latif Nusayyif Jasim.

## Ramadan Receives British Muslims Delegation

*JN1609165390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, today received a British Muslims' delegation headed by Yusuf Islam, secretary of the Islamic organizations union in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Ramadan stated that the current aggressive campaign against Iraq is a link in the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy led by the United States and its colonialist and reactionary allies in an abortive attempt to paralyze the march of progress and development in Iraq.

The first deputy prime minister referred to the U.S. role in the passing of international resolution representing its hostile policy. He stressed that the U.S. Administration's enthusiasm in the issuance and quick implementation of international resolutions explains U.S. policy, which is hostile to Iraq and also exposes its bias toward the Zionist entity and its reluctance to implement Security Council resolutions for the withdrawal of the Zionist entity from the occupied Arab territories over scores of years.

For his part, the head of the British Muslims' delegation said that the Islamic organizations union in the United Kingdom and Ireland see the need for the departure of all the foreign forces, which have desecrated the lands of the Arabs and Muslims. He pointed out that this interference hampers efforts to bring about peace and will increase foreign interference in the domestic affairs of the Arabs and Muslims.

## Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Visits Shrines

*JN1709141090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Karbala', 17 Sep (INA)—Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Manuchehr Motaki and his delegation today visited the [Shiite] holy shrines in Karbala' Governorate. He was received upon arrival at the Husaynite Courtyard by Karbala' Governor Ghazi Muhammad 'Ali, clergymen, and custodians of the chaste Husaynite and 'Abbaside Gardens.

The governor thoroughly briefed the delegation on the projects of development, construction, and renovations in the holy shrines carried out on President Saddam Husayn's orders, and the construction and services projects executed in Karbala' Governorate.

### Meets With 'Aziz

*JN1809103790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0952 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki and the delegation accompanying him today.

The two sides discussed issues related to the normalization of relations between Iraq and Iran based on good neighborliness and mutual respect. The talks also dealt with the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

The Foreign Ministry under secretary and the heads of the ministry's organizations and legal departments attended the meeting.

## 'Arafat, Saddam Discuss Developments in Gulf

*JN1709203690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2012 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] We have just received the following: Leader President Saddam Husayn today received Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, and the accompanying delegation. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in the region and the latest developments.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the ambassador of the state of Palestine in Baghdad.

### Sends Message to Andreotti

*AU1709104090 Rome ANSA in English 0922 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Sep (ANSA)—Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat met here on Sunday with Italy's ambassador to Iraq, Franco Tempesta, and handed to him a message for Italian Premier Giulio Andreotti dealing with the crisis in the Persian Gulf, a PLO official spokesman announced here yesterday.

According to the spokesman, 'Arafat's message "regards efforts to find a political solution" to the Gulf crisis.

The spokesman then added that the PLO leader and Ambassador Tempesta discussed relations between Italy and the Palestinians defined by 'Arafat as "very good and friendly." The meeting was said to have taken place at the PLO leader's residence in Baghdad.

### Depart 18 Sep

*JN1809110990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad today following a weeklong visit to Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn received Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and the accompanying delegation yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed the situation in the region and its latest developments.

## Second Shipment of Donations From Jordan Arrives

*JN1409201690 Baghdad AL-QADISIYAH in Arabic 11 Sep 90 p 11*

[Excerpt] The second collection of donations provided by the brotherly Jordanian people to the children of Iraq arrived in Baghdad yesterday evening.

The convoy, which proceeded through the streets of Baghdad carrying Jordanian and Iraqi flags and placards which express the love of the brotherly sons of the Jordanian people for the sons of Iraq, included milk and foodstuffs for children. The convoy was received by masses which valued this remarkable brotherly initiative. [passage omitted]

## Radio Reports Bread Rationing To Begin 15 Sep

*JN1409180790 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] The Iraqi AL-BA'TH [as heard] paper reports that it has been decided to ration the distribution of bread in Iraq as of tomorrow, Saturday [15 Sep]. The paper says that each person will get three rounds of [pita] bread a day.

### Ministry Urges Families To Collect Ration Cards

*JN1409163090 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 12 Sep 90 p 7*

[Text] The Ministry of Trade has decided to extend duty hours of the distribution centers affiliated to public food and cereal companies until 2200 hours as of yesterday and until further notice.

The ministry urged the agents of these companies, as well as those of the consumer societies concerned to report quickly to the centers to receive the Iraqi families' allocated requirements of the basic and necessary foodstuffs.

The ministry also urged Iraqi families that have not so far received their family ration cards to report to the relevent authorities in their locations to receive these cards, so that they can have their food requirements.

### Saddam Chairs Armed Forces Command Meeting

*JN1709203390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2013 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn today chaired a meeting of the General Command of the Armed Forces. The meeting was attended by Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization.

### ICRC on Iranian Prisoner Exchange Interruption

*AU1809071790 Paris AFP in English 0057 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Geneva, Sept 17 (AFP)—The exchange of prisoners of war between Iran and Iraq was interrupted Saturday [15 Sep] following a release of Iranian prisoners, announced a spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is supervising the operation.

Confirming earlier reports, the ICRC said that it did not know the reasons for interruption of the exchanges, which have already led to liberation of 75,000 prisoners.

The organization also announced that a coordination committee of Iraqi and Iranian specialists and Red Cross officials met on Monday.

### More POW's Exchanged With Iran Arrive

#### 38th Group

*JN1409200190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] The 38th group of Iraqi POW's arrived at the delivery center in al-Mundhiriyah area this evening. The POW's chanted slogans expressing solidarity with leader Saddam Husayn and appreciating his excellency's humanitarian initiatives which enabled them to return to the dear homeland. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a new group of Iranian POW's, who Iraq has decided to release in accordance with leader President Saddam Husayn's humanitarian initiative, has been released. [passage omitted]

#### 39th Group

*JN1509183190 Baghdad INA in English 1100 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Baghdad, Sep. 15, INA—The 39th batch of Iraqi prisoners of war today arrived in the Iraqi border point of al-Mundhiriyah after their captivity in Iran.

A popular and official welcome was accorded to the Iraqi POW's in which popular organizations and people masses took part.

Meanwhile, a new batch of Iranian POW's was handed over to Iran this morning in implementation of President Saddam Husayn's initiative last month.

#### 40th Group

*JN1709103990 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] The 40th group of Iraqi POW's arrived in the al-Mundhiriyah border area in the Governorate of Diyala this evening. The Iraqi POW's stressed their readiness to continue to offer sacrifices, to defend the dear homeland and the Islamic institutions, and to contribute to the march of progress in our struggler country. They also hailed leader President Saddam Husayn's peaceful and noble initiative which had brought happiness to their and their families.

A new group of Iranian POW's, whom Iraq had decided to release in accordance with leader president Saddam Husayn's humanitarian initiative, also left the Iraqi territories this evening.

#### 41st Group

*JN1809095790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] Diyala, 15 Sep (INA)—The 41st group of Iraqi prisoners of war [POW's] returning to the homeland arrived at the al-Mundhiriyah border area in Diyala Governorate this evening. [passage omitted]

The prisoners were accorded an official and popular reception in which mass and popular organizations and a large crowd of citizens took part.

A new group of Iranian POW's, whom Iraq has decided to release pursuant to President Saddam Husayn's humanitarian initiative, left the Iraqi territories this evening.

## Shamir Asserts U.S. Guarantees 'Qualitative Edge'

*TA1709205590 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 2030 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Israel has been given U.S. guarantees that it will continue to maintain a qualitative edge at a time when Arab states in the region are receiving the best U.S. weaponry, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a news conference tonight at Ben-Gurion Airport. The prime minister was at the airport to welcome new immigrants from the USSR.

Mr. Shamir also said that the visit by Ministers Moda'i and Ne'eman to the USSR marked an improvement in relations with the USSR and all that is now missing is the formal act of establishing diplomatic relations.

### Says Weapons to Arabs 'Detrimental'

*TA1809105790 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Sep 90 p 1*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Prime Minister Shamir, speaking at a press conference at Ben-Gurion Airport last night, said: "We see no justification for (the proposed large U.S. arms sale to Arab allies). They will never use the weapons in self-defense; and if they do use them, we fear it will be against us." Shamir added that America's decision to provide sophisticated arms to Arab states is detrimental." [quotation marks as published] [passage omitted]

[On page 2 of Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew on 18 September, the paper's political correspondent reports: "The U.S. Administration believes to this date that the road to peace goes through the PLO. We believe the opposite. With the PLO inside, there will be no peace, said Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in a Rosh Hashana interview to HERUT YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM HERUT).

["He expressed the hope that the Americans will adhere to their policy of suspending talks with the PLO, which will increase the chances for successful negotiations with residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

["Shamir opined that Secretary of State Baker has not given up his previous stands, although he did not regard his current relations with Baker as a standoff "]

[The report adds that "when asked whether he will run again for Likud chairman and designate prime minister in the next elections, he replied: It depends when the elections take place; on how I feel at that time; and of course, on what the Likud decides."]

## Arens Says No Promise From Cheney for Extra Aid

*TA1709211190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens did not receive a promise to supply supplementary defense aid to Israel from the U.S. defense secretary. Minister Arens explained that the Israeli requests have been transmitted to the Pentagon for consideration. He said he presented in his meeting with his U.S. counterpart Israel's defense needs in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the impact of the arms deals with Saudi Arabia on the balance of forces in the region.

Our Washington correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the defense minister is now conferring with Brent Scowcroft, the U.S. national security adviser.

## Editorials Oppose U.S.-Saudi Arms Deal

*TA1709114690*

[Editorial Report] The 17 September leading Hebrew-language papers and THE JERUSALEM POST in English comment on the impending U.S.-Saudi weapons deal, expressing alarm at the prospects that these weapons might one day, for all sorts of reasons, be directed against Israel. The emphasis in the comments is both on the U.S. angle, pointing out that the United States has not learned from past experience that weapons offered to friendly countries were turned against allies and is ignoring the imbalance this deal will create vis-a-vis Israel's military capability, thereby contributing to the perpetuation of the arms race in our region—in contrast to world trends. From Israel's standpoint, its leaders—Arens, who is currently in the United States for talks with Defense Secretary Cheney and National Security Adviser Scowcroft; and David Levi, who is due in New York for the UN General Assembly meeting later this month—should simultaneously work for the cancellation of that deal and for compensation for Israel.

In its editorial entitled "Arming the Saudis" on page four, THE JERUSALEM POST says "it takes special blindness to historic processes to contemplate the sale of $20 billion worth of weapons to Saudi Arabia. And it takes special disingenuousness to claim that it is possible to 'balance' such a sale by 'compensating' Israel, or to pretend that it will not eliminate Israel's qualitative edge." While "even a superpower" such as the United States "cannot scoff at $20 billion," particularly in view of the "unexpected costs of sending a major expeditionary force to the Middle East and the rise in oil prices;" even though "the Saudis pay top dollar and in cash;" and despite the fact that "if they do not buy the arms from the U.S., the argument goes, they will buy them elsewhere," ultimately "selling arms indiscriminately does not pay." "If the Americans want stability in the region, they should resist the temptation to boost their arms industry and reduce their trade deficit by selling massive arms to Saudi Arabia. They should instead use the current unity of the industrial nations to limit, if not ban, the sale of arms to non-democratic regimes."

The POST gives several reasons why the deal should not be allowed to go through: 1) The United States may see the Saudi "current regime as eminently stable," but even "the fact that the princes are all members of the same family" does not offer "a guarantee of stability," as one can tell from the 1960's attempt by "a number of princes" to organize "a revolutionary political movement patterned after the officer-group headed by Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir in Egypt," the 1975 assassination of King Faysal by one of his cousins, and the "latent hatred for the new-rich 'royals,' especially among the millions of resident non-natives" which "should not be underestimated." In this context, "it may be useful to recall how stable and beloved the Shah of Iran seemed to be in the seventies." Besides, "in the neighboring states, the resentment is outspoken." 2) "The American education and the social and political sophistication of many of the Saudi princes notwithstanding, Saudi Arabia is still a rigid, fundamentalist, feudal society." Thus, "the current efforts in the Western press to depict Saudi Arabia as something approaching an enlightened, modern democracy are not unlike the strained, often comic but all too succesful attempts to portray Uncle Joe Stalin's Soviet Russia as a bulwark of democracy during World War II. It may be justified in wartime propaganda, but the U.S. can swallow it only at its peril."

3) Admittedly, "the Saudis do have real enemies": Iraq and Iran, which "covet Saudi riches and greater control over oil production," and "even newly unified Yemen" poses a threat. The assurances of the Saudi ambassador to Washington that the weapons would not be used against Israel are geared as "a personal lobbying campaign to reassure pro-Israel Congressmen" of that. "But the question of what the arms will be used for remains unanswered. In the past 15 years, the Saudis have spent at least $60 billion on some of the most sophisticated weapon systems. Yet they have proved impotent in the face of an Iraqi invasion threat." They were incapable of fielding troops "because they fear a strong military would pose a threat to the monarchy," so much so that "they had to employ foreign mercenaries to liquidate the 1979 uprising."

Given that "its hatred of Israel is fervid," it is clear that "if seriously threatened again, these arms will not protect the Saudis. They will need the U.S. to defend them. But Middle East alliances being as unpredictable as they are, they may well be used against Israel. They are dangerous because they are among the most advanced weapons extant and because they are identical to arms used by Israel." They may thus not only harm Israel, but also affect its qualitative edge and "may fall into the hands of radical, anti- Western regimes in the way that arms sold to Kuwait fell into Iraqi hands."

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ's editorial on page B1 is entitled "Excess Threatening Weapons." It says "Israel cannot be indifferent in view of the Pentagon plan; our security situation may be detrimentally affected if we are forced to take Saudi Arabia into consideration as a potential military enemy with a force far greater than that to which we have so far been accustomed. But it is not only Israel that should be concerned; all those who aspire for peace in our region cannot regard with equanimity the ballooning arsenal of sophisticated weapons in the Middle East.

"The United States, which is celebrating the end of the Cold War, cannot now exploit its heavy industry's production potential to cram its goods into the Middle East. The prime superpower also has international responsibility; it must not encourage a process of militarization in the Middle East because demand for weapons and aircraft is diminishing in Europe. The U.S. heavy industry will have to adapt to the political changes effected in Europe by Washington and Moscow.

"King Fahd screamed for U.S. assistance in the face of the threat from Iraq; and no one can predict whether his regime would survive after the Iraqi threat is eliminated. It is irresponsible to try to turn Saudi Arabia into an element having military might that can endanger its neighbors."

Analyst 'Amos Gilbo'a, writing on the page-A2 "Behind the News" column of Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in an article entitled "U.S. Aid to Saudi Arabia: A Threat to Israel," lists the different items the U.S. will be giving the Saudis and their effects: 1) The combination of F-15's and AWACS "will constitute a serious challenge to Israel's aerial supremacy." 2) With the Patriot missile batteries, "Saudi Arabia will in the future have a very good chance of curtailing our Air Force's strategic maneuverability." 3) Receipt of the Apaches means "greater Arab aerial peril to the Israeli Army's armored units." 4) The new tanks, including the M1-A2's, signify "greater Saudi capability of threatening the southern part of Israel." In short, "when the Gulf crisis ends, Israel will find itself faced with an Arab world sated with prime class weapons (and probably not only in Saudi Arabia!).

"Our qualitative military edge will then be highly questionable."

MA'ARIV's editorial on page A12 is entitled "A Fight Against the Saudi Deal." It is pointed out that the Gulf crisis and pressures by the military industries, coupled with Saudi "urgings," have "prevented the United States from learning from past mistakes, which it is repeating once again—this time on a huge scale" by choosing to ignore the examples of Iran and Kuwait. "Saudi Arabia has shown one and all that under no circumstances can it defend itself, otherwise there would be no need for such enormous U.S. forces on Saudi soil. Furthermore, the weapons that will flood Saudi Arabia will blatantly violate the prevailing military balance of power between the Arab countries and Israel, and no one in the United States could guarantee that in the future, under different circumstances, these weapons would not be directed against Israel.

"Despite all the hurdles, Israel must now brace for a fight to attain two goals: limiting the scope of the Saudi deal, and offsetting it with U.S. acquiescence to our own military requirements."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR's editorial on page 7 is entitled "Stop the Arms Race." It argues that this is the outcome of the deal and laments that the United States failed to learn from "its own experience and the Iraqi example how hazardous it is to supply such vast quantities of weapons to the Middle East and to tip the current balance of power." Israel may therefore "certainly feel threatened" by this deal, so "in his talks with Cheney, Minister Arens must concentrate on blocking the renewed arms race, even if it means giving up on acquiring additional weapons for Israel."

Teddy Preuss' commentary under the headline of "Weapons to Saudi Arabia" on page 7 of Tel Aviv DAVAR is entitled "Shakespeare for the Illiterate." He contends that just as it is senseless to ask the illiterate to read Shakespeare, "this is precisely what the Americans plan to do with Saudi Arabia: After stuffing them with superior aircraft and tanks worth approximately $100 billion, they are about to sell them more toys to the tune of $20 billion." Yet this goes against all logic, as the Saudis never protected themselves against the Iraqi threat; "they cried for help, and it came. But that they could have done even without the latest version of aircraft and tanks." Moreover, it goes against "the declared U.S. policy" of "helping friends help themselves." In the Saudi case, "when the day to issue commands came, the Saudis did not use the weapons they procured, but summoned the sellers. This even the Vietnamese and South Koreans did not do. They called for help, that is true, but they joined their saviors in the war. The Saudis, on the other hand, pile an infinite number of restrictions on their rescuers, including a ban on beer. There's a true-blue strategic asset for you!" The real "destination" of the new consignment is "hard to tell." At best, it will end up like "the U.S. aircraft and tanks that were left behind in Saigon. On the other hand, it is very clear what the weapons will not be used for: as defense against an invader. If another materializes on the horizon once again, the United States still has a lot of troops, aircraft, and tanks that can be sent to the sands of the Arabian Peninsula. Shamir, Arens, and Levi and their contacts in Washington are therefore fully justified in raising their profile. This time it will not be merely for the sake of the narrow interest, but also for the broad U.S. interest."

## Levi Notes Gorbachev Warning to Iraq

*TA1809064790 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Sep 90 p A3*

["Exclusive" report by special correspondent in Europe Daniyel Dagan]

[Excerpt] Brussels—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has warned Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz that if Baghdad attacks Israel, Moscow will stand at Israel's side. This was announced yesterday by Foreign Minister David Levi. Levi revealed this after a telephone conversation with Ministers Yitzhaq Moda'i and Yuval Ne'eman, who met with Gorbachev in Moscow over the weekend.

Levi said that the report of Gorbachev's warning to the Iraqis came from Soviet sources. He refused to elaborate. In a meeting with Israeli reporters, Levi abstained from making assessments on when full diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union may be resumed, or about Moscow's possible involvement in the region. He noted, however, that discontinuing the supply of weapons to Israel's enemies and opposing aggression are important steps. [passage omitted]

[In a similar report on page 1 of Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 18 September, "special correspondent" in Belgium Gid'on Kouts quotes Levi as saying that "Israel will not object to including the USSR in the peace process in our region, if it supports peace through negotiations between Israel and its neighbors, stops funneling weapons to aggressive countries, and takes a stand against them."]

## Military Move Against Iraq Not Automatic

*TA1709124290 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Sep 90 pp 1, 10*

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv—The entry of Iraqi troops into Jordan will not automatically trigger an Israeli military move, Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Dan Shomron said here yesterday. We will first examine what Iraqi troops are sent to Jordan and why, and how IDF [Israel Defense Forces] intervention would affect the Western-Arab coalition in the Persian Gulf, he said.

Shomron told defense reporters that the IDF has taken several measures in the event of an Iraqi attack. It also feared that the ability of Jordan's King Husayn to prevent cross-border attacks has eroded.

Intelligence, Air Force and civil defense units have been placed on a high state of alert, Shomron said. Ordnance Corps units have speeded up work on refurbishing equipment. Units have stepped up their training, he added.

Shomron's statements seemed somewhat "softer" than Defense Minister Moshe Arens's recent warnings that the entry of Iraqi troops into Jordan would be tantamount to "crossing the red line." [passage omitted]

Iraq has not changed its deployment near the Jordanian and Syrian borders.

Iraq's elite forces have been deployed near the Kuwaiti and Saudi borders. Inside Kuwait, Iraq has nine infantry, armored and mechanized divisions whose task appears to be defensive.

The embargo on food for Iraq does not appear to be significant, the reporters were told. Some countries maintain that the general embargo does not cover good supplies "and no one wants hungry children to appear on American TV...Iraq can withstand a food blockade, at least for several months."

It is not clear, however, how long Iraq can endure the blockade on supplies of spare parts. Shomron said he believed that some of Iraq's equipment is inoperative because of a shortage of parts.

But the reporters were also told that Iraq probably had sufficient parts for the weapons acquired from the Eastern Bloc. It probably stockpiled parts during the war with Iran and some supplies likely reach it by air from Libya. [passage omitted]

[A report by Avi Bnayahu on page 5 of Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 17 September adds that the chief of staff summed up security activities in the outgoing Jewish calendar year from October 1989 to September 1990. He noted that "two soldiers were killed and 31 injured in operations involving the defense of the northern settlements. During the same period, not even one terrorist managed to cross the border from Lebanon into Israel and no Israeli citizens were hurt." Shomron added that "100 terrorists were killed, many hundreds wounded, and 22 were taken prisoner" in various operations in southern Lebanon. During the same period, "the Air Force conducted 23 air strikes on terrorist targets in Lebanon." The Navy "thwarted four infiltration attempts and one attempted attack. These operations resulted in the death of nine terrorists and the capture of 12."

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 17 September notes that on the same occasion the chief of staff added that "the defense budget increase was approved by both the prime minister and the defense minister, and that the IDF is already operating according to this budget increase." Shomron also pointed out that "he supports the Arrow project which he believes will be an excellent means to tackle missiles and low-flying aircraft."]

## Senior Officer Warns of Possible 'Terrorism'

*TA1709060290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Report by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe]

[Text] The terrorist organizations, especially the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, are planning to carry out terrorist attacks against Israeli and U.S. targets throughout the world. Several attempts to attack Israeli communities abroad were noted recently, including attacks on immigrants.

The senior Army officer who made these statements added that, although most of the terrorist organizations have lately made Iraq their base, there is quite a large potential for terrorism in Jordan, as he put it. The officer asserted that the government is very concerned by the processes currently taking place in Jordan. There is widespread and unreserved support for Saddam Husayn in Jordan, which encompasses most of the populace, including the army. The king has no room to maneuver, stop supporting Iraq, or decide on a change of policy, our source added, as this would immediately cause internal problems.

Jordan is facing severe internal problems such as a steep increase in the influence wielded by the Islamic elements, which is one of the factors limiting the king's decision making powers. All this should give Israel cause for concern. The mood in Jordan is anti-Israeli and anti-American. The motivation exists, so there would be no problem in finding volunteers for attacks against Israel. It is unclear whether the king will be able to continue his policy of trying to prevent infiltrations and terror operations—he will be walking a tightrope and will confront problems within his kingdom.

Several terror attempts have also been foiled recently since the eruption of the Gulf crisis. The critical question is what will happen if Jordan is destabilized to a point that the king is forced to abdicate his throne. This could certainly happen, the senior Army officer said, and it would pose a very big problem for Israel, because there are too many competing organizations in Jordan, and many outside elements are interested in the kingdom, including Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia.

## Sharon, Cabinet Discuss Immigrant Housing

*TA1709140890 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Sep p 1*

[Report by Bill Hutman]

[Text] Only 5,000 of the 45,000 apartments the government approved earlier this year to ease the housing crisis are actually under construction, Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon told the aliya cabinet yesterday.

Sharon, just back from a two-week trip to the Soviet Union, said the Jews in Russia expressed great concern they will have to live in tent camps when they arrive here.

Hundreds of potential immigrants raised questions and concerns with him about the absorption process, said Sharon, who plans to have an absorption information booklet put together and distributed in the Soviet Jewish community.

Housing starts are being held up because contractors are demanding that the government promise to buy apartments that remain unsold, said Sharon.

The aliya cabinet, while coming to no decision yesterday appears ready to recommend to the government that full guarantees be given only on homes built in the north and south.

Lesser guarantees, probably around 80 percent of cost, will be given in the center of the country, because of the greater demand for apartments there, said Deputy Housing Minister Avraham Ravitz.

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 17 September in a page 10 report by Arye Bender adds that "Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon, in a briefing on his visit to the Soviet Union given before the ministerial committee on aliyah yesterday, asserted that Soviet Jews who wish to immigrate to Israel should be permitted to leave the USSR in every possible way, including by overland routes. He added that the exodus of Soviet Jews should be stepped up as much as possible." "An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] representative told the ministers that the army could offer housing solutions for 7,000 immigrants—in military rest and recreation camps and in structures belonging to the Serviceman's Welfare Association. Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz reported the signing of agreements with seven hotels in Jerusalem, Netanyya, and Bat Yam, providing rooms for about a thousand immigrants. 'We will not forcibly direct immigrants there,' Minister Peretz said, explaining that 'only immigrants who fail to find other accommodations will be encouraged to turn to the IDF facilities and hotels.' The minister reported that younger immigrants would be sent to IDF facilities, while the older ones would be directed to hotels."

["Mikha'el Bruno, commissioner of the Bank of Israel, who participated in the meeting, corroborated these estimates."]

### Ethiopians Protest Inaction on Repatriation

*TA1709123590 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Sep 90 p 2*

[Report by Bill Hutman]

[Excerpt] Hundreds of Ethiopian immigrants, some in tears, blocked the road in front of the Prime Minister's Office for several hours yesterday morning to protest what they saw as the government's failure to bring their families to Israel.

Conditions in Addis Ababa remain terrible for the more than 15,000 Jews waiting to immigrate, community leaders here said. They feared the recent decision by Israeli authorities in the Ethiopian capital to build a school and expand the Jewish cemetery indicate that the reunification of the Jews there with their families is a long way off.

"We are frustrated by the delays," said Addisa Messula, chairman of the Umbrella Organization of Ethiopian Immigrant Groups. He accused both the Israeli and Ethiopian governments of holding up immigration.

The demonstrators refused to leave until the early afternoon, when Azri'el Nevo, the prime minister's adviser on Ethiopian affairs, agreed to meet with their leaders.

Nevo refused to comment on the meeting, but the Ethiopian leaders said he promised that the monthly stipend given to families in Addis would be increased, and blamed the delay in reunification on the Ethiopian government.

The Jews in Addis are being kept hostage by the Ethiopian government, which hopes to get greater financial assistance from Israel, said Messula after the meeting.

The Ethiopian leaders characterized the meeting as having resulted in "nothing new."

"I won't be happy until I see the numbers (of Ethiopian Jews immigrating to Israel) going up," Messula said.

The demonstrators wore stickers declaring, "Let the Ethiopians immigrate now, tomorrow may be too late." [passage omitted]

### Eytan Discusses New Water Sources in Territories

*TA1709140290 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Sep 90 p B2*

[Report by Aharon Pri'el]

[Excerpts] Reviewing the water situation in Israel and the ways to deal with the shortages expected soon, Agriculture Minister Refa'el Eytan in yesterday's cabinet session called on the government to invest 1.8 billion Israeli shekels to develop new water sources by the year 2000, 583 million shekels to build sewage treatment plants, and 100 million shekels to desalinate sea water. All this, in addition to the possibility of importing—"however shameful this may be"—250 million cubic meters of water a year to satisfy urban consumption and to make up the deficit in ground water. [passage omitted]

Minister Eytan argued that "giving up control of the State of Israel's main water sources in Judaea and Samaria is absolutely out of the question."

According to him, continued control of West Bank water sources "is necessitated by reality" and the government would be well advised to launch a public relations campaign, both in Israel and overseas, "to hammer this principle into public consciousness."

The agriculture minister noted that the policy of water supply for agricultural use until the year 2000 is based on the principle of drastically cutting water quotas for agricultural use, using unpurified water instead of purified water, using water more effectively, and the principle "that the livelihood of new rural settlements should be based on industry and services rather than on agriculture."

Eytan believes that the supply of potable water should come from ground water rather than from water pumped from Lake Tiberias. "At the same time," Eytan said, "the urban water supply systems must be overhauled and renewed."

If developed, the potential of usable water in the year 2000 will total 2 billion cubic meters a year, Eytan noted. [passage omitted]

### Police Establish Special Riot Control Unit

*TA1709121090 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Sep 90 p 3*

[Report by police affairs correspondent Natan Ro'i]

[Text] The police are establishing a special riot control unit, which will be known as the "Gid'onim," to operate under the authority of the police's Jerusalem District command. This unit will be used to suppress the intifadah in conjunction with the Border Police's special anti-terrorism unit and other special army units.

The establishment of the unit was initiated by Police Commissioner Ya'aqov Terner, and will be headed by a commander from one of the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] crack commando units. The deputy commander will come from the special antiterrorism unit belonging to the Border Police. So far dozens of soldiers have been recruited from the IDF's top forces. The unit's infrastructure was planned by Commander Asaf Hefetz, founder of the Border Police's special antiterrorism unit.

The police and the Border Police have been operating two riot control units in the Arab sector over the past ten months, one unit in the West Bank and the other in the Gaza Strip. Both units have already racked up quite a few successes in capturing stone throwers.

### Updates on 16-17 Sep Incidents in Territories

*TA1709124990*

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 17 September in a page-10 report by Jon Immanuel says that "multiple life sentences were imposed in Nabulus Military Court yesterday on two members of the 'Red Eagle' and 'Black Panther' gangs which killed at least 13 Palestinians suspected of informing for the Israeli authorities and tortured dozens." It adds that "the Black Panthers were nominally affiliated with Fatah, and the Red Eagles with George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Many Nabulus residents said they terrorized the town for months before they were uncovered." In another trial in the Nabulus court yesterday, "Jamal al-Masri was sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a fellow inmate in Nabulus prison on July 13.

"Also in Nabulus, Samir Sabah, 35, was stoned next to a taxi stand in the town center by a passerby and responded by opening fire with a pistol, but no one was hurt. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops came and removed Sabah, who has been accused by local people of extorting money from taxi drivers and of working with the Israeli authorities, local sources said.

"Palestinian sources said that in 'Azzun, east of Qalqilyah, two families fought each other with firearms on Saturday night." The sources said that the fighting erupted because "both families were alleged to have guns because they worked as agents of the Israeli authorities. The three wounded men were taken away by IDF troops, they said. The IDF said it had no information on the incident."

Yizhar Be'er and Eytan Rabin, reporting on page A6 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 17 September, add that "residents of the Tulkarm refugee camp reported that two days ago a peace-making ceremony between Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Fatah representatives in the region was held in the UNRWA [UN Relief and Works Agency] offices. Following an agreement to end mutual harassment, approximately 1,000 camp residents arrived to mark the occasion. As will be recalled, violent clashes erupted over the past two weeks between Hamas and Fatah activists, during which 11 locals were injured.

"It seems that pressure brought by the locals led to the accord between the two movements, even though the residents claim that this will only be short-lived, as the ideological differences are too vast."

Amir Rosenblitt, writing on page 3 of Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 17 September, says that speaking to new Soviet immigrants in Beersheba yesterday, Major General Matan Vilna'i, the commander of the Southern Command, said: "The Persian Gulf events have had an effect on the Gaza Strip because of the locals' identification with Saddam Husayn, a powerful leader." He pointed out that "although the IDF calls the intifadah a 'moderate' uprising, it has not ended yet and assumes various shapes." Today we notice "less violence in the area, but we must remember that the Gaza Strip residents are highly motivated but are simply hamstrung in expressing their sentiments as freely as they did before." Vilna'i claimed "this activity is manifested primarily in subversive acts and in the operations of masked individuals against collaborators." He noted that "the drop in hostile activity can be attributed, among other things, to the decline in media coverage, the general fatigue, and the security forces' work." Nonetheless, he emphasized, "the Gaza Strip residents are making an effort to recapture newspaper headlines."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0800 GMT on 17 September reports that "in Khan Yunus, the security forces sealed a number of rooms in the home of Sa'id Najar. He is suspected of being a member of a strike committee which calls itself the Palestinian Ninja. Our correspondent Arye Gus adds that the man participated in three brutal murders, including that of a woman in the later stages of pregnancy. He also took part in a long series of vicious attacks on Arab residents."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1100 GMT on 17 September reports that "a general strike is being observed in the territories today." Reporter Mark Weiss adds: "Called for by all the uprising leadership groups, today's action marks eight years since the killings at Sabra and Shatila in Lebanon."

## Indians Killed in Bus Accident Near Refugee Camp

*BK1809085390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Reports say eight Indians were killed and at least 27 injured when a bus carrying them from the Al-'Azraq camp to the Amman airport collided head-on with an oil tanker yesterday. An Indian Embassy spokesman in Amman told PTI this morning that the accident occurred at (Al-Harawa), about 50 km from the Al-'Azraq camp.

## Number of Refugees in Camps Approaches 35,000

*AU1809102790 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Geneva, United Nations, Sept 18 (AFP)—The number of refugees currently in Jordanian transit camps after fleeing from Iraq and Kuwait rose to 34,876 on Monday, the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) said here Tuesday.

On Saturday, the refugees in these camps numbered 41,000. They dropped to 29,111 on Sunday before increasing by nearly 6,000 on Monday, the U.N. office said. UNDRO added that Sweden had pledged 15 million dollars to help the refugees, Denmark had pledged two million dollars and Italy promised 500,000 dollars. The Dutch Government pledged another million dollars on Tuesday.

## Four French Nationals Arrive in Amman 17 Sep

*NC1709185290 Paris AFP in English 1805 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Amman, Sept 17 (AFP)—Four French nationals arrived here on a regular Iraqi Airways flight from Baghdad Monday after having been held in different houses outside the Iraqi capital. Diplomats in Baghdad said the four, Jacques Moulineau, 57, Rama Kishnan, 58, and a couple in their late fifties identified as Mr. and Mrs. Manon, were permitted to leave in line with Saturday's announcement by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn that elderly or ailing French nationals would be allowed out of Iraq.

But on arrival here the four said they had learned in Baghdad that their release had been made possible in response to a request by former Algerian President Ahmad Ben Bella, who had talks with Iraqi officials over the week end. Mr. Moulineau, an engineer with the French firm Thomson in Kuwait, said he had been taken from there after the August 2 Iraqi invasion to Baghdad by bus with 16 of his colleagues and kept in a house for 10 days.

"It was surrounded by trees and I couldn't see anything," he said. "There was nothing to indicate that it was a strategic location, but it was heavily guarded by Iraqi soldiers and we considered ourselves to be on such a site." Iraqi authorities last month announced plans to hold foreign nationals from countries hostile to Iraq in order to deter a feared attack by the United States and its allies.

Mr. Moulineau said he had been held with 10 people, including a British woman and her husband, several Americans and another French citizen. Families were not separated, he recalled, adding that the house had been "specially prepared: the Iraqis had set up two beds in five rooms, equipped with radio and television. "We were allowed to walk about 30 meters (yards) from the house, but the only thing we could do was a little exercise."

Describing his release, he said: "An Iraqi official whom I had never seen before came to see me last night (Sunday) and told me I would be in France on Monday or Tuesday. "The worst moment was when I had to say good bye to my fellow detainees, without being able to do anything for them." Mr. and Mrs. Manon both said they had been correctly treated while Mr. Kishman told a questioner he had had been unable to determine where he had been held.

## Omani Envoy Denies Deportation of Palestinians

*JN1509093690 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Sep 90 p 3*

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—Oman has denied that it has deported any Arab citizens since the beginning of the Gulf crisis last month and said that a team from Oman had recently concluded contracts with Jordanian teachers.

The denial came from Omani Ambassador here Muhammad ibn Sultan al-Busa'idi who said that press reports about Oman's deportation of 3,600 Palestinians "were totally groundless."

"All Jordanians or Palestinians serving with the public or private sectors in Oman are still carrying on with their duties normally," according to the ambassador.

He said the total number of Jordanians or Palestinians working in Oman does not exceed 3,600.

Other reports said earlier that Qatar had evicted Palestinians employed for many years in Doha and other Qatari towns. The Palestinian Committee for Human Rights published a memorandum in which it included a list of names of evicted people who had been serving in Qatar's different sectors in some cases for more than 25 years.

The memorandum, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times, accused the Qatari government of systematic eviction of Palestinians. "Palestinian officials had taken up the issue with the Qatari government in a bid to end this arbitrary action, but the result was an acceleration in the process of evicting Palestinians and their families," the memorandum said.

"The eviction of Palestinians started last month without any justification or provocation, and scores of Palestinians have been stranded in Jordan and Iraq and some have already made their way back to the occupied Arab territories," the memorandum said.

The memorandum, which was distributed to various world organisations, urged the United Nations, and the Arab league to interfere and provide protection to the Palestinian citizens in Qatar.

### Returning Expatriates' Funds Frozen in Britain

*JN1709132690 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 90 p 3*

[By Caroline Faraj, Special to the JORDAN TIMES]

[Text] Amman—Jordanian expatriates returning from Kuwait and Iraq have been complaining that their deposits at British banks in the United Kingdom have been frozen along with those belonging to Kuwaiti and Iraqi citizens and organisations, and that their efforts to draw from their funds have ended in failure.

One expatriate who preferred anonymity said that he has been trying in vain to get funds he had deposited in Britain when he used to work in Kuwait. Although he left Kuwait eight months ago, the British banks had refused to release any of his funds because at the time of depositing his money his passport showed he was residing in Kuwait. Despite repeated attempts to get hold of his funds and despite appeals to the British authorities the man has not yet received a reply.

British Consul here Henry Hogger said that his country was applying U.N. Security Council resolutions which ordered the freezing of all assets and funds belonging to people living in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The British government has asked depositors to refer their cases to the Bank of England which has been arranging for the Kuwaitis and Iraqis living in Britain to obtain allowances from their deposits to cover their daily needs," the consul said. "A sum of [Sterling] 200 a day has been allowed for the Iraqis and Kuwaitis," the consul added.

Recent reports from London said that British customs and security officials at Heathrow airport were thoroughly searching briefcases and papers carried by Jordanian businessmen without giving any reasons.

### Iran Relations Said To Resume 'This Month'

*JN1709182090 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 17 Sep 90 Second Edition p 1*

[By Nayif al-Ma'ani]

[Text] Amman—AL-SHA'B has learned that a high-level economic delegation from the private sector will visit Tehran soon to discuss and develop cooperation between Jordan and Iran in the economic and commercial fields as well as in the exchange of national commodities and products.

A leading economic source has told AL-SHA'B that the visit of the delegation, which will include representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, businessmen, contractors, and representatives of different private-sector activities, will take place immediately after the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries and the opening of embassies in both capitals.

The source explained that the delegation's visit was decided when a Jordanian popular delegation visited Iran recently. However, the visit had been postponed until the resumption of diplomatic relations.

The source said that the main aim of the visit is to increase Jordanian exports to Iran and to open markets for Jordanian products there.

The source expected trade between the two countries to reach about $100 million during the first year of economic dealings.

In the meantime, AL-SHA'B has learned from a high-level Jordanian source that diplomatic relations between Jordan and Iraq will be resumed this month.

### Jordan-UK Society Sends Letter to Thatcher

*JN1809063690 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Sep 90 p 5*

[Letter sent by the Jordan-British Friendship Society to the British Prime Minister "this week"]

[Text] I have been delegated by my colleagues, the Jordanian members of the Jordan British Society in Amman, to address to your excellency this letter which is an original and genuine expression of the deep concerns of the members, and of the concerns of every Jordanian in particular and Arab in general as relates to the escalating events in the Arabian Gulf. I take this opportunity to offer to your Excellency my deepest respect and regards and to pray the Almighty to maintain peace on our planet and to spread love and goodwill among all human beings.

We have strong faith in the indispensability of friendship among peoples who have the highest regard for the moral and humane values that religion so firmly impresses upon us all, and which are firmly built upon mutual respect, the protection of integrity and the preservation of the inalienable right of every community to self-determination. From this firm belief, we, Jordanians representing a varied cross-section of our Jordanian-Arab Society—namely people of various political economic, social and professional expertise have formed, together with a group of friends from the United Kingdom who live among us in Jordan, a Jordanian-British friendship society, and have nurtured this product of our union for many years. The society today represents a bond between two great peoples sharing firmly held principles and values the roots of which grow as old as history itself, and which remain the prime motivator of our being every step of the way.

Following in the footsteps of our beloved leader, H.M. King Husayn, we have always striven to be objective and calm in our expression and have consistently shunned recrimination and rage lest we lose our credibility of which your Excellency is well aware, and our openness and lucidity have always served to confirm, in principle, our position. Whereas honesty among peoples is one of the pillars upon which friendship can be built and maintained, we wish to present to your excellency the following facts:

First: If we were to consider as given the fact that the legitimate interests shared among peoples which are represented by the decisions of their governments are those that dictate the form of mutual relationship, and in general dictate the form of international relations, then the supremacy of international law is as crucial as the supremacy of the internal laws of each individual nation. Therefore, the first principle of such a supremacy is that it is indivisible and may in no way, shape or form, be selective depending on the self-interest of one particular nation or group of nations. While we are firmly against any occupation of one's land by another through the use of force, and the annexation of such land inspite the will of its people we like our Arab brethren, feel that international law as embodied in form and content by the resolutions of the United Nations and their Security Council, has been and remains a spectre looming ominously over the Arabs alone.

Our most blatant example in this matter is the unimaginably rapid successon of Security Council resolutions relating to the current crisis in the Arabian Gulf and their speedy implementation, and the huge number of nations that have joined in their execution led by the United States of America, while the wellknown Security Council Resolution 242, of British conception and sponsorship, has been and remains dormant a quarter of a century later. Would your excellency be so kind as to satisfactorily justify this overeagerness of the world to enforce international law vis-a-vis the Arabs, and the extreme lethargy in enforcing it vis-a-vis Israel? The past months has unveiled a despicable attempt to starve eighteen million Arab Iraqis and punishment for a purely local Arabic matter, for their refusal to submit to the resolutions of the Security Council within twenty-four hours. Meanwhile, Israel has received billions of dollars over the years of its occupation of the Arab lands of Palestine as a reward for the taking of Arab land, for their refusal to submit to such resolutions for a period of twenty-four years. We pose the question but no meaningful response is ever forthcoming of which we may inform the millions of homeless refugees in the Palestinian camps, and to the millions who might, God forbid, starve in the cities and towns of Iraq.

Second: Immediately at the onset of the crisis, even before we, in the Arab house, could attempt to reach an Arab solution, we encountered the massive armadas of the West and its armed forces, offensive weaponry and the noose of economic sanctions backed by military might. International resolutions inundated Iraq and the world to justify the measures being taken on the ground and in the air. Each successive international resolution came down as a justification for action instead of action being the implementation of the resolution. By this sequence of events, the allegation that these actions were taken to uphold world legitimacy is negated because these actions themselves were a blantant transgression against legitimacy. This international multinational overcrowding in our Arab house succeeded only in aborting any possible Arab solution, in the internationalisation of this conflict, and in the creation of an open season on the resources and wealth of the Arab house as though it were, God forbid, defenceless and unguarded. Ought we to submit to such a blatant violation of the sanctity of our Arab home?

Third: In the wake of the Eastern Bloc's disintegration and recession, we proceeded to follow intently and cautiously the bold and constructive steps taken towards achieving European unity in 1992. We share with Europe common interests, historical friendships and geographical links, thus making Europe's strength an inspiration to us in our quest for a balance of power in the world. By contrast, the U.S. seeks to dilute the strength of the European giant by various means, in order to prevent the achievement of this goal within the allotted time.

The Gulf crisis came at a most opportune time for the U.S. to achieve this most self-serving goal. The U.S. has become the keeper of the sources of Arab oil, and has taken hold of the rudder by which it steers to paralysis a united Europe—provided such unity does actually occur in view of the events in the Gulf—in addition to paralysing Japan's economic capabilities, and finally creating the international American dictatorship for a long time to come. If the official position of the U.S. is to fight the so-called "Iraqi dictator" and has, through the use of this fictitious term, enlisted Europe and Japan to join in the elimination of this so-called regional dictatorship, then you will be contributing, and, in this case, quite clearly, albeit indirectly, to the creation of the international dictator whose power will be infinite and uncontrollable. Through this contribution of yours, you will be putting your legitimate rights at the whim of the wind, and your unification will become kindling for the flames of the war of American interests.

Would we be contradicting recent history if we were to state that it was the U.S. that used all of its resources to undermine and displace the interests of Europe in the Arab orient, and has succeeded in substituting itself for it? And would we be contradicting the present if we were to state that the U.S. has today enlisted Europe to reinforce its own presence and self-interest? And if it were to succeed in this action, God forbid, would we be contradicting logic if we were to state that the future does not bode well for us as Arabs and for you as Europeans if the U.S. were to control Arab oil and dominate the single most important tract of land in the whole world?

Fourth: The Arabian Gulf region is and shall remain Arab, and its independent Arab decision concerning its resources and cultural relations with the peoples of this earth shall remain so forever. Why would oil be such a disaster if the decisions relating thereto were left to the Arabs alone? Arab interests demand that oil be sold to its consumers to create the financial resources so indispensable to the development process. No one will suffer a shortage of oil as long as relations and interests are based upon mutual respect. Is it then plausible that decisions on Arab oil be American for prosperity to abound? Would Britain, for example accept the Washington control the decisions relating to oil in the North sea? Just as your answer is a resounding no, so is ours; for we value our independence and refuse subordination. We remain eternally indebted to the martyrs who fell on the battle fields of the Arab wars of freedom, those martyrs whose blood douses the very soil on which we firmly stand.

In closing, I wish to reiterate that the massive rage that has been directed at us shall serve only to strengthen our resolve; for our self-respect and independence demand it. History has shown that Arab consciousness is at its zenith when others subject us to occupation, exploitation and subordination.

We feel today, that in spite of the weak and unacceptable Arab contribution to the noose of starvation and of attempts at humiliation, Arab resolve is unshakable, and Arab solidarity which arises out of a foundation of independence and a history of struggle, shall not founder. Throughout the Arab nation, Arabs will not be satiated if even one of our brothers shall go hungry in the land of Iraq; for this is in complete contravention of our religion and yours and in contravention of all the principles of human rights and of all those value which had, in the first place, brought us together in this friendship society on behalf of and through which I today address your excellency.

Sincerely, 'Abd-al-Hadi al-Majali, Chairman of the Jordan British Society

### King Confers With Algeria's Ahmed Ben Bella

*JN1609163290 Amman Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] His Majesty the King conferred at the Royal Court with visiting former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella on developments in the Gulf and Jordan's efforts aimed at finding an Arab solution to the crisis.

Ben Bella commended his majesty's endeavors and said these efforts should be pursued with Arab leaders to keep the crisis within its Arab framework and stave off escalation of the situation in the Gulf region. He said foreign intervention in the Gulf would jeopardize all Arab interests. Ben Bella arrived in Amman from Baghdad today.

### King Husayn Meets With Palestinian Leaders

*JN1709134790 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn last night received the secretaries general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] separately—the first such meetings in 20 years. This is according to sources in the two organizations. An official source, however, would only say that King Husayn received a number of chief delegates and members of delegations attending the Arab Popular Forces Conference. The meetings—the first since 1970, the date Hawatimah and Habash departed Jordan—were described as cordial and said to have focused on exploring an Arab-based solution to the Gulf crisis as the one option promising to maintain regional peace and security. Furthermore, the meetings were an opportunity for an assessement of Jordanian-Palestinian ties and to see how they may be developed.

The Arab Popular Forces Conference in support of Iraq, attended by Hawatimah and Habash, is set to conclude in Amman today. It is expected to come up with a resolution calling for a ship to sail for Iraq from a port in the Arab Maghreb and, on its way, make calls at a number of European ports. In a gesture of defiance of the international embargo of Iraq, there will be women, children, and token foodstuffs aboard the vessel.

### 'Arafat Arrives in Amman; Makes Statement

*JN1809121790 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1112 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] We will begin with the statement made by Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, after arriving in Amman today, in reply to a question about the current Arab efforts to settle the Gulf crisis within the Arab framework. The following is the statement made by 'Arafat:

[Begin 'Arafat recording] Undoubtedly, I take pride in exerting efforts in this direction together with others, foremost of whom is His Majesty King Husayn. My visit to the brothers in Iraq was part of efforts to work out a political Arab solution to the crisis in the Gulf. These efforts are complementary efforts. I am optimistic, although the statements made by the U.S. general who was dismissed yesterday reveal that it is not a question of defending this or that Arab country. The U.S. goal is to deal a blow to Baghdad and attack civilians in Baghdad, and the Iraqi people. This is a very dangerous plan which we should take into account. I refer this issue to the Security Council and the United Nations, and I stress that the statements made by that general are serious because he revealed the dimensions of a move against an Arab people of this large Arab nation. This is very serious. We should not forget that His Majesty King Husayn's efforts are moving in this direction. Our modest effort also moves in the same direction. The other Arab initiatives also insist that the solution should be a peaceful Arab one. [end recording]

## King Husayn Receives Brazilian Envoy

*JN1809091590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening Paulo Tasso de Lima [name as heard], the Brazilian president's envoy, who handed his majesty a message from the Brazilian president. The meeting was attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan.

## Peace Union Established With Iraqi Red Crescent

*JN1609161090 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Sep 90 p 2*

[Text] Amman (PETRA-JNA)—The Jordanian Red Crescent and the Iraqi Red Crescent have agreed to establish an international humanitarian union for peace in Amman.

This came in yesterday's meeting between the two organizations headed on the Jordanian side by Dr. Ahmad Abu-Qurah, chairman of the International Red Crescent and Red Cross Permanent Committee and director general of the National Union of Jordanian and Iraqi Red Crescents, and on the Iraqi side by Dr. Ibrahim al-Nuri, chairman of the Iraqi Red Crescent in Amman.

They decided to call on the international humanitarian organizations concerned with establishing world peace to join this union.

Dr. Abu-Qurah said that the union's principal task is to work to establish peace in the Middle East and lessen the suffering of people caused by the evils of destructive wars. He pointed out that he will hold international contacts to urge several international humanitarian organizations concerned with establishing world peace and decreasing the evils of wars to join this union.

He also said that the union seeks to mobilize world public opinion through the international movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to establish peace in the Arabian Gulf, avert the specter of war and armed confrontation, and decrease the suffering of any individual in the region whether it is caused by the economic blockade or the current situation as a result of the Gulf crisis.

## Comparison of Bush Speech to Iraqis

*JN1709124090*

Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic on 17 September carries within a 2,000-word "combined news agency" report on pages 1 and 18 what it labels the "text" of President Bush's message to the Iraqi people. Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic on 17 September also carries the same version of the address within a 2,400-word report on pages 1 and 10. The two papers' version of the address has been compared with the Riyadh Television Service version, entitled "Saudi Television Carries Bush Message to Iraqis," published in the 17 September Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

Page 20, column two, paragraph four, only sentence reads...by Saddam Husayn. When I met...(deleting paragraphs five, six, seven, eight, nine and first two sentences of paragraph 10)

Page 21, column one, fifth full paragraph, first sentence reads...the United Nations. (new paragraph) Perhaps your leaders...(deleting paragraphs six, seven, eight, nine, and first sentence of paragraph 10)

## Fadlallah, Al-Tufayli Assail Foreign Presence

*NC1409192590 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] In his Friday sermons, delivered during the prayers held in Beirut's Southern Suburb today, 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah stated that the resolutions recently adopted by the Islamic Conference Organization [as heard] calling for the deployment of foreign forces in Saudi Arabia were adopted under U.S. pressure. He said these resolutions are designed to justify U.S. agression and to occupy the Hejaz.

'Allamah Fadlallah added: The Saudi army, with the assistance of Arab military forces, could have confronted any possible Iraqi aggression without resorting to U.S. military presence in the region. His eminence asserted that it is clear that the United States does not intend to use its deployment to defend Saudi Arabia but rather to loot the region's resources.

Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, Hizballah's secretary general in Lebanon, strongly criticized the Islamic Conference Organization's [as heard] resolutions regarding the defense of the two holy mosques and the need for the deployment of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia. Our correspondent in Beirut reported that Shaykh al-Tufayli considered these resolutions an affront to the sanctity of Islam and the sacredness of the holy places because they put the holy places in the hands of infidels and permit the squandering of Muslim wealth on the invading forces. Al-Tufayli said: We are confident that the Al Sa'ud family will bear the consequences of these treasonous acts.

## Fadlallah: U.S. Wants To Redraw Regional Map

*NC1809065590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Commenting on the Gulf crisis, Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has stressed that we are facing a new difficult situation that encompasses the whole region. The U.S.-French-British buildup is trying to portray itself as a multinational force.

His eminence added that the United States entered the Gulf and prevented the Arabs from deciding for themselves what to do. He explained that America is now implementing plans of action that it drew up before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, to contain the region directly and alter its map by changing numerous systems and ruining economic and political projects in the region to serve its own objectives. He noted that this is being done after the USSR has retreated from its position of power.

Fadlallah said that the United States has not come to restore Kuwait to its rulers but wants to use Kuwait as bridge to attain its goals. He added that after the Americans arrived, U.S. control expanded, under Saudi protection, to Qatar, the United Emirates, and Bahrain. He noted that they know that economic sanctions have never worked throughout the history of the United Nations.

Fadlallah added: They do not want to fight, despite beating the drums of war. The issue is that they are trying to establish a new regional arrangement designed to destroy the Islamic movement, which they call the fundamentalist movement, which has grown stronger in more than one area. He said that they also want to destroy the remaining pan-Arabic feeling in the region.

## President, Cabinet Meet, Support Goal of Unity

*NC1709181890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] The cabinet met this morning under the chairmanship of President Ilyas al-Hirawi. Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss and the ministers attended the meeting. The cabinet discussed security, political and economic developments in the country, and adopted the necessary decisions. The cabinet approved the 1991 budget bill, presented by the finance minister, and decided to refer it to the Chamber of Deputies. [passage omitted]

The cabinet also approved Lebanon's participation in the IMF governors meeting for development and reconstruction and the meeting of the World Bank governors. It further decided to make the necessary contacts with the EC to ensure the inclusion of Lebanon among the states which have been harmed by the Gulf crisis.

The cabinet maintained that the continuing basic goal of the government is to reunite the country. It noted that impatience has become a general phenomenon in the country and called on citizens who appreciate the seriousness of the situation to rally around legitimacy and express their conviction that all the futile attempts and continuous adventures have harmed the country.

## 'Awn Rejects Cabinet Appeal

*NC1809102690 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Developments in the local situation depend on what unfolds over the next few days and on the disclosure of the stands and the background to these stands which have prompted the government, despite its admission that all have become impatient and that all efforts to establish peace and accord have been exhausted, to keep the door open for all concerned to spare the country more calamities and disasters. Michel 'Awn, one of those primarily concerned with taking advantage of the opening left by the cabinet, rejected the cabinet's appeal. He said he will not answer the appeal by the government of Prime Minister al-Huss because his government has virtually collapsed.

In an interview published by AL-ANWAR paper, 'Awn says that this government tries to include him in the solution to save it from sinking and protect it from the people's wrath. He adds that a government that has gone bankrupt has no right to talk about the need to establish a public opinion deterrent force and that a group that has exploited the state and wasted its funds has no right to talk about ending the exploitation.

### Army Deployment on Contact Lines Continues

*NC1709115490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The military command continues to deploy army units all along the contact lines from the mountain up to the capital and its suburbs.

A military source has stated that some Lebanese Army units have moved toward the contact lines to support the forces which are already there only to complete the siege of areas controlled by Gen. 'Awn. The source said that some quarters exaggerate the significance of this move in order to create confusion, arouse the fears of the citizens, and exploit this in the financial market to currency exchange rate.

Furthermore, two convoys of the 2d Brigade of the Lebanese Army ,estimated at more than 100 military and civilian trucks, left barracks in the al-Qubbah area in Tripoli to the mountains and West Beirut areas at dawn on Saturday and Sunday. AFP quoted an authoritative source as saying that the Lebanese Army completed the reinforcement of its military forces around the area controlled bt General 'Awn's on Saturday and that about 2,000 soldiers supported by armored cars were deployed all along the green line dividing the two parts of the capital.

Quoting political sources, REUTER said today that the Lebanese Army under the command of Gen. Lahhud will complete its deployment by Thursday, at the latest. It added that the mobilization of soldiers on the fronts overlooking areas controlled by Gen. 'Awn does not mean that a military battle is inevitable to remove 'Awn.

Citing the same sources, REUTER said that Damascus told Gen. 'Awn that it received no messages from him through direct or indirect mediators. It added that 'Awn had recently tried to approach Syria through mediators close to him and to Syria. The sources said that if 'Awn wants any negotiations with Syria, he must send a message through the government of President al-Hirawi.

### Ibrahimi Sees Papal Nuncio; Leaves for Damascus

*NC1709182490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Arab Envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi left Beirut this afternoon for Damascus to meet with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Before his departure, Ibrahimi met with Papal Nuncio Pablo Puente at the Summerland Hotel and discussed developments.

### Sidon Strike Suspended; Checkpoints Set Up

*NC1709085490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Sidon has responded to the appeal by the national Islamic grouping to suspend the strike in the city. All public and private institutions and shops reopened today. Security police have set up checkpoints to search cars and pedestrians and to maintain security following the withdrawal of all gunmen.

The national Islamic grouping issued a statement yesterday announcing the suspension of the strike and that its meetings will continue to follow up on the developments in the city.

## Al-Shar' Meets Arab League Official on Lebanon

*JN1809083190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Damascus—This evening, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Lakhdar Ibrahimi, assistant Arab League secretary general and envoy of the Arab Tripartite Committee on Lebanon. They talked about the situation in Lebanon and ways of helping the legitimate government stand up to the challenges in the country.

## Iraq Told To 'Reconsider' Withdrawal From Kuwait

*JN1809091190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Solution and Foreign Forces," the AL-THAWRAH newspaper says: There is no doubt that Iraqi authorities still have enough time to reconsider their calculations and reassess their unenviable position.

If the Iraqi authorities want to avoid the pitfalls of destruction and humiliation, the paper goes on, and sincerely seek to avert the great danger which is coming from all sides, the road to this is clear and manifest. All these authorities have to do is to reconsider all the measures which escalated the situation, beginning with the invasion and ending with the annexation of Kuwait; and consequently, to respond to the Arab and international desire for Iraq to withdraw and return things to their previous state.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that pursuing recalcitrance and inflexibility, pressing ahead with the game of procrastination and delay, and buying time will do no good and will not achieve any objective. This will only make the situation worse and open the doors to possibilities which portend widespread evil.

AL-THAWRAH adds: They [not further specified] will put Iraq before catastrophic, destructive dangers and make it subject to all possibilities of fracture and loss. The road will also be paved for foreign armies and fleets to flood the region, and they will have all kinds of pretexts and excuses to remain in the region and revive the old colonialist dreams.

The presence of these forces, of course, constitutes a danger which poses a constant threat to Arabs. Everyone rejects this presence on any Arab spot, regardless of the pretext. Syria, as expressed by its leader al-Asad, has affirmed its categorical rejection of this presence and its determination to end it by all ways and means.

AL-THAWRAH explains that the pressing problem at present is not the foreign forces, but the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. For when the Arabs manage to put an end to the invasion and cancel all that ensued, the problem will be resolved. Consequently, there will be no justification for the continuation of foreign military presence in the Gulf. If these foreign forces do not withdraw, then the Arabs, as articulated by President al-Asad, will be a single rank with no disagreement among them to find the ways and means they deem necessary for the departure or evacuation of those foreigners from our land.

## Paper Urges Arab Action To Curb Iraqi Policy

*JN1809102990 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Iraqi Practices Have Immersed the Region in Danger," the newspaper AL-BA'TH in its editorial today affirms that while enormous efforts are being made in various parts of the world to find a solution to the Gulf crisis, which was caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, with a view to sparing the region and perhaps the entire world a catastrophe that could plague us as a result of a specific Iraqi mistake or a reckless Iraqi position, Iraq, instead of calming the situation, escalated the tension when it resumed what has become known as the war of the embassies.

The paper adds: Iraqi troops kidnapped four French diplomats in Kuwait. This position, if it were to show anything, shows an escalation of the situation with a view to pushing it toward the military solution, which all parties with the exception of Iraq seek to avoid. The French response to the Iraqi move was firm. French President Francois Mitterrand announced a series of measures to express French anger over the new Iraqi aggression on the foreign nationals present in the State of Kuwait. President Mitterrand affirmed that Iraq is the party escalating the situation and pushing for military action. One of the measures that France has taken in response to this move was the dispatch of new troops supported by the most sophisticated weapons to the region. This returns us once again to the affirmation made by the militant leader Hafiz al-Asad that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait is what brought the foreign troops into the region, and not vice versa. The leader al-Asad diagnosed the problem when he said: Foreign troops are a symptom of the problem, and one of its effects. As a matter of fact, what Iraq is implementing on the ground confirms that things are not heading in the desired proper direction, because Iraq does not want this.

The paper goes on to say: Hence, we would like to say that considering that the danger is posed to all Arabs, because they are the party targeted first and foremost, then the Arabs should make a collective effort to curb the arrogance and adventures of the Iraqi regime, and put an end to the reckless policy it has been pursuing to protect the nation and its interests and also to safeguard Iraq, its territorial integrity, and the unity of its people. Only by so doing will we prevent foreign parties from achieving their objectives.

## Afghanistan

### Saudi Arabia's 'Warmongering' Moves Condemned

*LD1709185990 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Statement issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan; date not given]

[Text] According to international news agencies Saudi Arabia has invited a number of the leaders of the Afghan extremists' opposition stationed in Pakistan to visit Saudi Arabia for talks on strengthening the mujahidin groups and creating a high council of the resistance forces. This provacative and adventurous action by the ruling circles of Saudi Arabi is another bright example of that country's efforts to intensify war and bloodshed, and to expand the dimension of interference by the Wahhabi forces in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan. The continuation of interference by the Saudi Wahhabis in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan causes anger and indignation among the liberated and Muslim people of Afghanistan. They view it as a reason for the continuation of war and bloodshed among Afghans, specially when a political solution is preferred to a military choice.

Such obvious war-mongering by Saudi Arabia coincides with the period when the situation in the Gulf region—in which Saudi Arabia itself is one of the involved countries in this regional crisis—has developed in a critical and worrying form, and creates a serious threat to the peace and stability of this strategic region and all the world.

It would be much better if Saudi Arabia, instead of fanning and provoking war and bloodshed among the Muslim and religious subjects of Afghanistan, would concentrate its efforts toward preventing a critical situation in the Gulf by ensuring unity and joint efforts by the Islamic countries to implement peace and stability, and to resolve conflicts and discords by political and peaceful means based on the instructions of the sacred religion of Islam.

### Najibullah Meets Homeland Party Officials

*LD1609065190 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0505 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 15, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, today in Kabul had a meeting with the employees of the Central Council of the Homeland Party of Afghanistan, reports a BAKHTAR correspondent. In this meeting President Najibullah talked in brief on the fulfilment of measurements of the executive body of the Homeland Party since the convocation of the General Assembly of the party, and explained to them the tasks and measures enacted by the said assembly.

Meanwhile, President Najibullah in this meeting spoke on the consequences of the visit of the Afghan high ranking delegation to India, and their participation in the 2nd UN conference for lease developed countries held in Paris. At the end President Najibullah replied the questions raised by the participants on different issues.

### Renewed Clashes; Possible Defections to Rebels

*BK1509075890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0248 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Text] Kabul, Sept 15 (AFP)—Mujahidin resistance fighters have launched what is likely to be their last offensive before the onset of winter, which halts hostilities for three months as the cold turns mountain battlefields to ice. Renewed fighting—which has come each autumn for the past decade—has flared in at least six of Afghanistan's 29 provinces with the fiercest battles in several years reported is the country's west.

With another two months to go before the first snows blanket the Hindu Kush, the government has also launched a flurry of offensives to remove the mujahidin from their winter dugouts encircling Kabul. "If the mujahidin are pushed out now from the warmer valleys around Kabul, the Afghan Army can try to take the lowlands with the thaw in March," a local military observer said.

The resistance occupies the countryside around the capital, from where they shell the city daily. They usually vacate many of their positions during the bitter winter and return before spring to reoccupy their strongholds before the government soldiers can move in. The dull boom of heavy artillery echoes in the nights as the government pounds the neighbouring Argandi Bolo Mountains in the last spurt of a fight that will die as the resistance abandons the cold peaks for the valleys below.

Soldiers are seen almost daily in Kabul stocking the city silos with gigantic Soviet-made Scud missiles which are frequently fired at resistance bases in the country's south and east, witnesses said. "The operations in Argandi Bolo are continuing," a government spokesman said this week. But in line with military rules he did not give casualties in the fighting in in the country's west, south and east.

United Nations officers, travellers and Afghan travellers and traders returning from the provinces are among the few sources of outside information in Kabul, as most civilians don't venture beyond a military security belt around the city. The only foreigners allowed out along roads leading from the city to mujahidin strongholds belong to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The government denies that fierce fighting in western Badgis, believed to be the sharpest this year, is continuing. But U.N. sources say the mujahidin offensive, an attempt to overrun the provincial capital of Qalayi Naw, has triggered tension in neighbouring Herat Province among militia groups.

The sources say several militia factions appear poised to break away from the government to join influential resistance leader Ismail Khan of the Jamiat Islami. "If the militia groups join the mujahidin then Badgis and Herat can both fall to the resistance," a well-informed diplomat said.

He added that the two provinces located on the borders of Iran and the Soviet Union were vital to Kabul because they command the winter supply routes to other Afghan cities when the road over the Hindu Kush from the Soviet border is snow-bound. The government has also seen its hopes for the return of Afghan refugees from Iran to Herat and Badgis shattered by the present battle, sources said.

The diplomat said government soldiers were struggling to hold Badgis, hoping that the change in seasons would end the resistance offensive which began at the beginning of this month. "If the soldiers can hold on until the end of November, the region would be safe ... Or else insh'allah (as God wills)," the diplomat said.

The resistance, whose favorite targets are eastern Nangahar Province and its capital Jalalabad, this autumn attacked southeastern Zabul in a surprise move that caught the military off balance. The army had been concentrating on the seige in the west.

State-run Kabul Television Thursday said long-range shelling of Zabul by the resistance was continuing, adding that similar attacks were also on in the eastern Paktia region. The report gave scant information on the fighting in the two provinces, but said the mujahidin had begun shelling the outer security posts of the cities of Khost and Jalalabad. Sources in Kabul said the spurt of autumn fighting had also spread to Gazni Province.

## Extremists' Missiles Hit Kabul 15 Sep

*LD1609065490 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
1505 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Kabul, Sep. 15, BAKHTAR—The Pak-backed extremist elements today fired 6 American made surface-to-surface Sacker type rockets on the residential areas of Kabul, reports a military correspondent of BAKHTAR. As a result of these rockets of the extremists 10 civilians of Kabul City were killed and 7 others were injured. The injured were rushed to a hospital and are under serious medical treatment.

The said rockets were [word indistinct] from western directions of Kabul City and hit on 5th and 6th precincts of the city. Huge amounts of material losses have also been afflicted to our people by the [word indistinct] rockets that were put at the disposal of the extremist elements by the U.S. authorities contrary to all internationally accepted norms and regulations for massacring the innocent civilian people of Afghanistan.

## More Than 1,000 Mujahidin Reportedly Surrender

*BK1709154090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT
17 Sep 90*

[Text] Kabul, Sept 17 (AFP)—More than 1,000 men from two mujahidin resistance factions surrendered at a ceremony Sunday and promised to transfer their support to the Soviet-backed government, an official spokesman here said Monday. Some 450 armed and 675 unarmed mujahidin gave themselves up to Afghan authorities in the northeastern province of Baghlan Sunday, the spokesman said.

"It passed off peacefully, it was not like Herat," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said, recalling a similar ceremony in Western Herat Province on April 6 which exploded into a massacre. Afghan Prime Minister Fazle Haq Khaliqyar, then in Herat as province governor, was shot and severely wounded in the melee in which the rebels fired point-blank at government officials and government troops responded with automatic weapons fire. The massacre reportedly slowed down further such surrender ceremonies and the process of Kabul's declared national reconciliation efforts.

## Military Cited on Security Situation in Provinces

*LD1709183890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Quoting an authoritive source in the Armed Forces, the BAKHTAR military section reports that Saudi mercenaries have fired heavy weapons sporadically on the frontlines of units and companies stationed in Nangarhar Province, which retaliated with heavy weapons fire. A number of units and companies carried out an ambush in Nowabad, near Kama bridge. A mortar, 20 Mezael shells, and eight recoilless rifle shells belonging to the enemy were siezed.

According to the same source, the units and companies stationed in Paktia Province remain on the frontlines and in trenches. They enjoy high morale about foiling any possible attacks by foreign enemies. The enemy has fired heavy weapons on many regions in Gardez City and on a number of security posts near Khost City. Four houses have been destroyed and one civilian has been injured.

The source adds that the units and companies in Badghis Province have inflicted crushing blows on foreign mercenaries who want to disrupt peace and security in Badghis Province. They have captured many positions. During the last four days the foreign mercenaries have fired heavy weapons sporadically on many security posts and residential areas. As a result of the retaliatory attacks by units and companies, a number of their positions have been destroyed. Food and supplies have reached Badghis province. The units and companies enjoy high combat readiness.

The source adds that the units and companies in Zabul Province are defending their lines with high combat morale and with the close cooperation of the people. They are ready to repel any possible attack by the foreign enemies.

During the last four days the enemies have fired on the defensive lines of the heroes and brave defenders of Kalat City. In retaliation, the positions of the enemy have been subjected to air and artillery attacks, causing them losses. The defenders of Kalat carry out their national and patriotic duties with bravery and Afghani zeal. The situation is generally calm in other parts of the country.

## Bangladesh

### Iraqi Asked To Issue Exit Permits for Diplomats

*BK1709163490 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka this afternoon that all repatriation flights for the stranded Bangladeshi nationals from the Middle East are free of cost. He was clarifying the report that some Bangladeshis still (?staying) in Kuwait and Iraq think that they will have to pay air passage on return home. The spokesman said the cost of all repatriation flights from Amman in Jordan and (Dir Bakar) in Turkey is being borne by the government of Bangladesh and international organizations. He said the returnee Bangladeshis are also allowed to exchange Iraqi and Kuwaiti dinar up to the value of 5,000 taka at the rate of 100 taka per dinar. Those from Kuwait have also been advised to bring the documents of their bank accounts for submitting compensation clearance in Bangladesh.

The Foreign Office spokesman said the Iraqi ambassador in Bangladesh, Suhayr 'Ummad al-'Umar, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Dhaka today. He was asked to request his government to sort out the problem of issuing exit permits to the diplomatic and nondiplomatic staff of Bangladesh Embassy in Kuwait. Ambassador K.M. Shahabuddin and these officials are now in Baghdad from Kuwait on their way back home via Amman. He said the Iraqi ambassador was also told of the issue of 2,000 Bangladeshi nationals in Iraq being forced by the Iraqi Army to work for them. The ambassador assured that he will ascertain the matter from his government and arrange for their release.

### Exit Request Refused

*BK1809142890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1406 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 18 (AFP)—Iraq has stopped Bangladesh's ambassador to Kuwait and his diplomatic and other staff from leaving Baghdad where they were in transit on their return home, an official spokesman said here Tuesday. "We have now been told in clear terms that our diplomats from Kuwait will not be allowed to leave Iraq since we failed to comply with the Iraqi directive to close our mission in Kuwait by August 24," Spokesman Mustafizur Rahman said.

Ambassador K.M. Shahabuddin, his wife, four diplomats and three other staff left Kuwait Sunday for Dhaka via Baghdad after finally deciding to quit the embassy in the face of pressure from Iraq. The latest Iraqi decision had been conveyed to Bangladesh's embassy in Baghdad, from where the diplomats were to have flown to Amman Monday for a subsequent flight to Bangladesh, Mr. Rahman said. "We consider this a serious violation" of the Vienna convention governing diplomatic protocol, the spokesman said. He hoped that the Iraqi authorities would "reconsider their position and give free passage" to the ambassador and his companions.

The ambassador and his entourage left the Iraqi-occupied emirate Sunday, two days after Iraqi troops stormed and searched the residence of one of the diplomats. The diplomats left their posts after the authorities here said Sunday that they were being withdrawn "as it is no longer possible for them to carry out their legitimate functions." Bangladesh, which condemned the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and has sent up to 5,000 of its troops to Saudi Arabia to join a multinational force in defending the kingdom from possible aggression, had refused to close its embassy in Kuwait by August 24 as demanded by Iraq.

Asked if the Bangladesh ambassador and his staff were being held hostage in Iraq, the spokesman said, "we have to wait to see what they do." But he added that Mr. Shahabuddin and the others were in Baghdad and in good health. Mr. Rahman replied in the negative when a correspondent wanted to know if Dhaka was comtemplating retaliatory measures against Iraqi diplomats in Bangladesh.

The spokesman felt that the Iraqi authorities had discriminated in refusing exit permits to the Bangladeshis. He pointed out that Turkey's ambassador in Kuwait had been allowed to return home though Turkey had not complied with the Iraqi ultimatum to shut its embassy. Mr. Rahman said Dhaka was also still awaiting a response from Baghdad on some 2,000 Bangladeshis who were reportedly being forced to work in Iraqi military camps in Kuwait.

Meanwhile, nearly 3,000 more stranded Bangladeshis from Kuwait had returned home via Jordan and Turkey in nine flights during the past 24 hours, officials said. This brought the total of Bangladeshis repatriated home in 108 flights since August 22 to nearly 31,500. The spokesman said nearly 6,000 Bangladeshis were still awaiting repatriation in camps in Jordan while up to 15,000 more were waiting on the Iraqi side of the border to cross into Jordan. Some 5,000 were in Turkish camps and would be flown to Dhaka by the end of this month.

### 1,500 Nationals Said Dead, Missing in Kuwait

*BK1409141390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1352 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] Dhaka, Sept 14 (AFP)—Some 1,500 Bangladeshis were dead or missing following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, according to a refugee who returned home Friday. Tajul Islam, president of the Bangladesh Association in Kuwait, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that at "every moment people, including Bangladeshis, were being killed (by Iraqi soldiers) or dying due to lack of food."

"The situation in the invaded emirate (Kuwait) is terrible," he said. Mr. Islam, a naval architect, was among 400 Bangladeshis who returned to Dhaka on Friday from Jordan on a special Air France flight, the third such flight sponsored by the French Government. He said as head of the association he monitored fellow expatriate Bangladeshis in Kuwait, but after Iraq's August 2 invasion of the emirate he found many of them missing. They were also absent in Jordanian refugee camps, where he ended up after a gruelling desert journey, he added.

Mr. Islam said he estimated 1,500 Bangladeshis were dead or missing, basing the figure on accounts of indiscriminate firing by Iraqi troops on foreigners, including Bangladeshis, and reports of many deaths in Kuwait and the camps due to lack of food. Foreign Office sources had said earlier that death reports could not be confirmed as there was no direct communication with Kuwait. Bangladesh has suspended the operation of its embassy in the emirate. There were 75,000 Bangladeshis employed in Kuwait at the time of invasion.

Separately, official sources said Friday that Bangladesh was considering sending food for its stranded citizens in Iraq but only with the approval of the United Nations. "We feel there is need to provide food to our nationals in Iraq, but we must find a way of helping them without violating the U.N. sanctions," one source said, adding that no specific decision on the subject has yet been reached. Dhaka has backed all U.N. sanctions against Iraq imposed since Baghdad's August 2 invasion and subsequent annexation of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

### President Thanks Japan for Funding Repatriation

*OW1209201990 Tokyo KYODO in English*
*1459 GMT 12 Sep 90*

[Text] Dhaka, Sept. 12 (KYODO)—Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad on Wednesday thanked Japan for extending emergency aid for the repatriation of Bangladeshis and other Asians who evacuated to Jordan and other neighboring countries following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. In a message to Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Ershad expressed his "deep appreciation" for the 12 million dollars Japan alloted to the International Organizatiion for Migration (IMO) for the repatriation effort, officials said.

Ershad said he hopes Japan will continue to extend financial support to Bangladesh. According to Bangladesh officials, 17,000 Bangladeshis stranded in Jordan have returned home on special flights arranged through international aid.

### Ershad Returns Home From Turkey, Saudi Arabia

*BK1509133890 Dhaka Overseas Service in English*
*1230 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] President Ershad returned home on Saturday [15 September] morning at the end of his four-day visit to Turkey and Saudi Arabia. After a two-day state visit to Turkey, President Ershad went to Saudi Arabia where he performed umrah [minor pilgrimage] and had talks with Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al'Aziz and the deposed Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

The president during his meeting with King Fahd discussed the situation arising out of the Iraqi invasion and annexation of Kuwait. While talking with the deposed Amir, President Ershad expressed Bangladesh's solidarity with the people and government of Kuwait under the leadership of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. The president reiterated Bangladesh's stand for full implementation of the Security Council resolution calling for withdrawal of Iraqi troops and restoration of legitimate government of Kuwait. The amir expressed his gratefulness to the people and government of Bangladesh for assuring their total solidarity with his country, particularly in this critical hour. Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, who also accompanied the president, also had discussions with the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

### Ershad Wants Special Powers Act Repealed

*BK1809134390 Dhaka Overseas Service in English*
*1230 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] President Ershad has directed the Law Ministry to take steps to repeal the Special Powers Act. The matters are being examined by the ministry and the final decision in this regard will be announced soon. This was announced by Vice President Moudud Ahmed at a news conference in Dhaka Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Moudud in this connection gave the background of the promulgation of the Special Powers Act in 1974. He said the Awami League government promulgated the act in order to suppress the opposition, deprive the people of their fundamental rights, and curtail the freedom of the press. The vice president said the present government of President Ershad believes in full enforcement of fundamental rights of the people, independence of the judiciary, and the freedom of the press. That is why, he said, steps are under underway to repeal the Special Powers Act.

### Police Raid Campus After Firings, Bombings

*BK1809065490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0641 GMT*
*18 Sep 90*

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 18 (AFP)—One more student was rushed to hospital with bullet wounds after gunmen opened fire and blasted bombs at the volatile Dhaka University campus as police raided two dormitories to flush out armed "outsiders," campus sources here said Ttuesday. Nure Alam, an activist of the Jatiyatabadi Chatra Dal (JCD), was shot during the firing late Monday and was being treated at the dhaka medical college hospital, they said. At least 100 shots were fired and several bombs set off, they added.

Police, called by the university authorities, raided the dormitories soon after the firing and bombings, and recovered a sizeable number of arms and ammunition including rifles, other guns and knives. On Sunday, three JCD leaders were taken to hospital with bullet wounds following clashes between rival factions for supremacy on the campus. The vice-chancellor of the 68-year-old university, Professor Moniruzzaman Miah, alleged at a meeting with senior teachers also late Monday that "vested quarters were trying to break the calm in the campus with the alarming entry of armed outsiders in the dormitories." He did not further identify the "outsiders."

Campus sources said the outsiders could be activists from other colleges who had left or were expelled from the university, once known as the Oxford of the East. The NEW NATION newspaper reported Tuesday, quoting police sources, that one outsider, a college student, was arrested during the raid.

JCD, the student wing of Begum Khaleda Zia's opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party, heads the powerful Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU), but is faced with growing rivalry between its two top leaders. Begum Zia has failed so far to bring the two groups together.

A strong contingent of riot police have been deployed on the campus and all roads in the area have been closed to traffic. Only vehicles with university stickers were being permitted to enter the area. Meanwhile, DUCSU leaders condemned the attack, with one saying, "like in the past the autocratic regime of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad was patronising terrorism on the campus."

Eleven officers of dormitory unions, in a statement published Tuesday, also condemned the attack on student leaders and alleged that a group backed by the government was behind the clashes. Mr. Ershad disssolved his ruling Jatiya Party's student wing in 1986 in a bid to calm the campus, asking opposition political groups to follow suit to help restore a "congenial educational atmosphere."

But university sources alleged that some activists may be linked to the ruling party and disturbing the campus atmosphere. Since August 1989 at least 40 students have been killed and hundreds injured nationwide in clashes linked to political rivalry, according to unofficial estimates. Some 25,000 students are enrolled at the university, of whom 9,000 stay in its 13 dormitories.

## India

### Iraq To Allow Distribution of Supplies

*BK1809034990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] Iraq has allowed the distribution of food and medical supplies sent by India for its nationals stranded in Iraq and Kuwait. PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA], quoting Indian Embassy sources in Baghdad, says that Iraq has laid a condition that the distribution should be undertaken only by Indian officials. Baghdad has informed the embassy authorities that no foreign or international relief agencies should be involved. The Indian ship Vishva Siddhi carrying about 10,000 tons of food and medicine is likely to arrive at Qasr Port near the Iraqi city of al-Basrah on Sunday [23 September]. The Indian ambassador in Baghdad, Mr. K.N. Bakshi, told PTI that the embassy is chalking out plans for off-loading the cargo and its distribution. He said the assistance of Indian companies functioning in Iraq will be sought in the task of distributing the supplies among the Indians in Kuwait and Iraq. The Indian ambassador said about 90 percent of the supplies will be distributed in Kuwait. It may be recalled that the UN Security Council while allowing food aid to stranded foreign nationals had said that the distribution should be done through the UN or other international relief organizations.

The Indian ambassador in Baghdad has also said that a second convoy of 20 buses carrying about 700 Indians will leave Kuwait tomorrow morning. The Indian Embassy officials have been deployed at the Iraqi border to expedite their clearance. [passage omitted]

### Refugees To Leave Amman Within Three Days

*BK1709163390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The remaining Indian nationals are likely to be evacuated from Amman within three days as a result of the ongoing massive airlift by Air India, Indian Airlines, and the Indian Air Force. About 2,700 Indians, who left Kuwait yesterday in 65 buses, have meanwhile reached the Iraqi border and are being taken to an Indian camp set up at Al-'Azraq near Amman where about 6,000 Indians are now staying. Over 50,000 people have already been airlifted to Bombay during the last one month—a record by any airline in the world. Indian embassy sources in Amman say no Indian is now stranded in the no-man's-land between the Iraqi and Jordan border.

An External Affairs Ministry spokesman told newsmen in New Delhi this evening that the Indian mission in Baghdad has already arranged for 200 buses for evacuation of Indians from Kuwait. The mission will not make any more arrangements for buses since the remaining Indians in Kuwait are not too keen to leave. The spokesman said at India's request the International Organization of Migration has agreed to airlift about 10,000 Indians from Amman in other commercial flights.

Referring to the opening of Kuwait's border with Saudi Arabia, he said the Indian Embassy at Riyadh is sending consular staff to help the Indian refugees who might have entered Saudi Arabia through the checkpost. Indian officials are working round-the-clock at camps escorting evacuees to Amman airport for emplaning them. The spokesman said the number of flights between Amman and Bombay will be gradually reduced depending on the flow of traffic.

The spokesman said tap water is available in Kuwait and long queues are still seen before provision stores and petrol pumps. Cooking gas is in short supply. Educational institutions and government offices departments—except essential services—are closed in Kuwait.

### Shevardnadze Replies To Gujral's Letter on Gulf

*BK1709160390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The Soviet union has expressed its grave concern over the dire predicament faced by thousands of foreign nationals, including those of India, stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. In his reply to a letter from the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, the Soviet foreign minister, Mr. Shevardnadze, said that this highly crucial humanitarian problem calls for measures by the international community to ease the plight of these people. He said it was from this angle the issue was discussed at a recent summit between the Soviet president, Mr. Gorbachev, and President George Bush of the United States at Helsinki.

Mr. Shevardnadze's letter was personally handed over to Mr. Gujral in New Delhi today by the Soviet special envoy, Mr. O.V. (Bostarin).

### BJP Calls For Election Only After End of Term

*BK1609104190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, has said that his party wants the next general elections to be held only after the National Front government completes its full term. Speaking to newsmen in Bhopal today, he said that our support to the government does not mean that we will remain passive when the government keeps on committing mistakes overlooking people's aspirations. Mr. Advani said the last electoral mandate was not a clear verdict of the people in favor of any of the political parties. It however clearly reflected the people's desire for a change with the Congress-I out of power. Mr. Advani said the BJP wants that this verdict of the electorate be respected and given full opportunity to the last.

Referring to the Ayodhya [shrine] dispute, he appealed to the Muslim leadership to rise above narrow considerations and view the issue in larger perspective. He said if the Muslims cooperate in the construction of the Ram temple at Ayodhya, this would be a unique example of national unity.

### Congress-I Party Accuses Government of Failure

*BK1509084490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Sep 90*

[Text] The Congress-I working committee has called for a united national response to the challenges facing the country. In a resolution passed at its meeting in New Delhi today, the working committee criticized the National Front government for its failure on various fronts. It said instead of fostering a united national response, the energies of the National Front and its government are being frittered away in partisan politicking and factional sideshow. On the question of reservation, the resolution says that once the backward classes are identified, the issue should be so resolved as to ensure that the poorest and the most backward sections of the backward classes get priority.

Referring to the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid [Hindu-Muslim disputed shrine] issue, the resolution says that the weak minority government lacks both the political will and the strength to stand up and fight for secularism. The resolution refers to the situation in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, and Assam and says that the nonperformance of the National Front government has seriously aggravated these problems.

In a resolution on the price situation, the Congress-I working committee says that the government came to power on many false and populous promises. In another resolution on the Gulf situation, the Congress-I working committee feels that the government has utterly failed in meeting the challenge of the Gulf crisis.

### Minister Speaks on Fencing Pakistan Border

*BK1709094390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The union minister of state for home, Mr. Subodh Kant Sahay, has said that the second phase of fencing on the 144-km long international border with Pakistan in Ganganagar and Bikaner District will be launched soon. Addressing a news conference in Ganganagar yesterday, Mr. Sahay said the security arrangements in the border district of Ganganagar would be further tightened to contain the infiltration of smugglers and terrorists. He said the government has already sanctioned two more battalions for the Rajasthan Armed Constabulary. The entire expenditure on this account would be borne by the center.

### Border Vigil in Rajasthan, Gujarat Being Updated

*BK1809041490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] The surveillance on the India-Pakistan border in Sri Ganganagar and Bikaner Districts is being updated on the pattern as in Punjab to check smuggling and infiltration from across the border. The Border Security Force [BSF] which looks after the 1,547 km of international border in Rajasthan and Gujarat will have more battalions and surveillance helicopters to enhance vigilance against the vulnerable border with Pakistan. Security fencing will go up to about 200 km from the existing 60 km while the floodlighting along the border will cover up to about 240 km from the existing 60.

The minister of state for home affairs, Mr. Subodh Kant Sahay, who visited the border areas said that Indians need all this in view of Pakistan's aid and abetment to terrorists in Punjab and Kashmir. The minister, who also visited some border observation posts, commended the jawans [soldiers] for their three-tier role of defending the border, checking terrorists and smuggling, and helping the people during natural calamities. He also met the villagers and heard their grievances about irrigation and water.

All India Radio correspondent Mohan Singh, who visited about 130 km along the Rajasthan border, reports that in this sector alone, the BSF has seized contraband worth about 30 crore rupees, apprehended 44 intruders and killed the famous terrorist, Avtar Singh Brahma, and four smugglers so far.

### Kashmir Governor Dismisses Five Senior Officers

*BK1509083690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir governor has dismissed from service five senior state government officers for their conduct of being prejudicial to the security of the state. An official handout in Srinagar said that these officers under the banner of the so-called coordination committee of the employees were in league with terrorist organizations.

### Kashmir Civil Servants Go On Strike 'En Masse'

*BK1509084890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0825 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Srinagar, India, Sept 15 (AFP)—Some 137,000 state government workers in the violence-torn Kashmir valley struck en masse Saturday to protest the dismissal of five top officials who had protested alleged atrocities by Indian security forces. Almost all government offices in the state's summer capital were locked and reports reaching here from surrounding districts said the strike, the second by Kashmir state government employees this month, appeared to be valley-wide.

A spokesman for the Employees Coordination Committee which called the strike said it would continue until the dismissal orders served on the five top officials Friday were withdrawn unconditionally. The five, including Srinagar City Administrator Abdul Salam Bhat, Chairman of the State Power Development Authority Abdul Hamid Matoo, and Jammu and Kashmir State Bank Manager A.R. Mubarki, were dismissed Friday for taking part in protests against alleged atrocities by Indian troops.

A government statement issued Friday said, "their continuance in government service is detrimental to the security of the state." Angry bank employees also joined the strike vowing to keep all branches of the Jammu and Kashmir State Bank throughout the valley, wracked by a moslem-militant led secessionist campaign, closed indefinitely.

Government sources said State Governor Girish Saxena held several high-level meetings late into the night Friday to discuss ways of dealing with the strike, the second by government employees this month. On September 3 government workers walked out for five straight days to protest alleged excesses by Indian security forces battling to put down the secessionist campaign, as well as to demand the release from prison and reinstatement of dismissed colleages.

Informed sources said several more senior employees had been slated to be dismissed in the coming days, apparently also in connection with the September 3-7 walkout. The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported from the state's winter capital of Jammu that the state government had ordered pay cuts for employees who had joined the almost-total September 3-7 strike.

A similar pay-deduction order had been issued in July when state government employees mounted a two-day strike which had also been called to protest alleged excesses by security forces. Meanwhile a similar strike by hospital employees paralysed all but emergency medical services in the valley for the third straight day Saturday, with doctors and medics demanding the release of a senior Kashmiri moslem cardiologist, Abdul Ahad Guru, in New Delhi Tuesday.

## Iran

### Syria Talks 'Could Discuss' Iranian Troops Possibly to Saudi Arabia

*NC1709165590 Paris AFP in English 1621 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Tehran, Sept 17 (AFP)—Iran and Syria could discuss the deployment of Iranian troops in Saudi Arabia during a visit here of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the next few days, an informed Iranian source disclosed Monday. His remarks came as the Syrian Ambassador to Iran, Ahmad al-Hasan, told the English-language TEHRAN TIMES newspaper that Iranian troops, "which have a long experience in war technology, can help in the defense of the holiest places in Islam."

Syria has joined Egypt and Morocco in an Arab defense force deployed in Saudi Arabia to defend the kingdom against a possible attack by Iraqi forces in neighboring Kuwait. In addition, the United States has stationed as many as 100,000 ground and air troops in Saudi Arabia and Britain sent a squadron of Tornado fighters in the aftermath of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait August 2.

The Iranian source provided no further comment on the possible discussion of an Iranian deployment in Saudi

Arabia but stressed the importance of the Syrian ambassador's interview in the TEHRAN TIMES. Mr. al-Hasan stressed that a request for Iranian forces "should come from the Arab League and Syria will support it by all means if such a proposal is tabled.

"Naturally, when we support the deployment of forces from Pakistan and Bangladesh ... there is no reason why the deployment of Iranian forces for the safety of Islam's holiest places is not backed by Syria," he said. The ambassador said his government hoped that "foreign forces will be replaced by Arab and other Muslim ... forces." [ellipses as received]

Iran and Syria were solid allies during the eight-year Iran-Iraq war and have both condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. But Tehran has spoken out strongly against the burgeoning U.S. military presence in the Gulf region, with Spiritual Guide Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i equating popular resistance to the U.S. deployment with holy war.

### Ministry Confirms Al-Asad Visit

*LD1809103190 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 18, IRNA—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will arrive here for an official visit next week, the Foreign Ministry announced Tuesday. The visit will take place in reply to an invitation by President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Observers attach significance to President al-Asad's visit to Iran in the wake of the current crisis in the Persian Gulf. The visit is the first since the 1979 victory of the Islamic Revolution.

### Editorial Reassures Syria

*NC1409151990 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 4 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "Iran's Settling Issues With Iraq Should Not Worry Syria"]

[Text] Lebanese rival Shiite groups, the Amal and Hizballah, announced their agreement to a ceasefire and a call off to propaganda war yesterday.

The agreement was reached in a meet between the two parties' leaders in the al-Biqa' region, South Lebanon, and they have committed themselves to cease attacks, in arms and words, against each other across Lebanese territory.

It is not of course the first of such agreements between the two militia groups. Repeated breaches of similar agreements in the past cast not-too-an optimistic air on this newly signed truce. [sentence as published]

In Tehran political circles expected a sustaining ceasefire between the two after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait that has affected the world politics for its major parts over the past month. Hopes for such a ceasefire were especially corroborated in view of similar positions adopted towards the current Persian Gulf crisis by Tehran and Damascus. Iran and Syria definitely prefer to concentrate, for the moment at least, on the Iraq-Kuwait related issues. They don't want to direct their diplomacy on the very illogical absurd in-fightings among the Lebanese Shiites.

The just concluded Amal-Hizballah ceasefire however was signed in the presence of Iran's Damascus envoy Hasan Akhari and the Operational Commander of Syrian Forces in Lebanon Gen. Kan'an. But the mere presence of Iranian and Syrian officials at the signing ceremony is not enough to ensure a lasting peace between Hizballah and Amal.

The situation of the region at present is so fraught with sensitivity and complications that Tehran and Damascus should very seriously try to prevent another eruption of hostility between the militant groups in Lebanon. Both groups are highly influenced by Iran and Syria and close cooperation between the latter will be highly conducive to a lasting peace.

Meanwhile, Syria should never think it has a cause to worry as far as Iran's settlement of issues with Iraq is concerned.

Even after the signing of a lasting peace between Tehran and Baghdad and even with the opening of Iranian and Iraqi embassies in each other's capitals, Tehran will certainly continue to see in Syria a friend and a regional ally.

From this perspective the worries of some Syrian leaders about the recent thaw in relations between Tehran and Baghdad need not be a cause for fear. Any such fears are groundless and can not in the least be justified.

### Joint Efforts for Amal-Hizballah Peace

*NC1409144090 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 5 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "Reconcilable Differences"]

[Text] Under pressure from Iran and Syria and after long periods of negotiation, Shiite Muslim factions Amal and Hizballah have agreed to observe a new cease-fire—the last in a series of peace pacts signed between them.

The three-year on and off struggle between the two which has claimed the lives of more than a thousand innocent people has brought nothing but deaths and destruction for Lebanon's oppressed Shiite community.

One cannot but feel sorry for the futility of their intermittent fightings which have led to the waste of a lot of scarce human and material resources which could have otherwise been used to contribute to the welfare of the country's Shiites.

Instead of confronting their enemies in and outside Lebanon in a united front and increasing their bargaining power in that country's complex political setup, the two groups have signed peace pacts time and again only to scrap them when they have regained their fighting power.

What seems to be lacking with both factions is flexibility or an ability to sit down and engage in a true give-and-take situation. They both lack the ability to compromise. But in fact by dropping some of their unattainable goals without jeopardizing their ideals both Hizballah and Amal can take advantage of the synergy of their combined forces.

No one can claim that Hizballah and Amal do not have differences. But they are not irreconcilable and are outweighed by their commonalities. If they put aside prejudices and prejudgements they can come to real terms in a way that can help their deprived community.

Sometimes the struggle between two factions has been described as an attempt to control the 1.2 million strong community. One would think that the basis for this attempt should be a competition to see which group can serve more by using the available resources. If the two do not pay sufficient attention to the proper use of the human and material resources they will lose them irreversibly. The futile fightings will eventually force out—if it has not already done so—those among the population that can serve, leaving behind unskilled and illiterate people who can only consume and contribute nothing. Also excessive attention to obtaining battlefield capability by the two factions would give rise to a generation of youth who can only fight and destroy with no skill or ability to contribute to construction.

When studying reports of battlefield fightings between the two factions, the intensity and brutality of them all give us a feeling as if they are trying to finish the conflict right there. The two must have matured enough to realize that their conflict is part of greater interests and that the final solution to it cannot be determined by them on the battlefield.

One more thing. We find that Islamic groups in Lebanon always talk about unity and fraternity but instead engage in fighting whenever they get the chance. So may be sloganeering should be substituted with deeds.

### USSR Minister Belonogov Arrives in Tehran

### To Discuss Gulf, Relations

*LD1809082190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0750 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[By TASS correspondent Ravil Musin]

[Text] Tehran, 18 Sep (TASS)—USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.M. Belonogov arrived in the Iranian capital. He told TASS in an interview that he would discuss with Iranian officials topical issues regarding the Persian Gulf zone situation, a situation that remains very strained and explosive. The Soviet representative said there is an urgent need to discuss this problem with Iran, a country which has considerable weight in the region.

The USSR deputy foreign minister said the state of bilateral relations, their prospects and problems would also be examined.

Examining the views of Iran and the Soviet Union are essential to settling the Persian Gulf crisis, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ezi said in an interview with the TASS correspondent. We, therefore, welcome this visit, he stressed, and we hope to examine all topical issues during the forthcoming negotiations with the Soviet side.

### Ministers Meet on Gulf Crisis

*LD1809111490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] The Soviet deputy foreign minister held his first round of talks with our country's deputy foreign minister in charge of the Euro-American affairs this morning. In these talks, the two sides assessed the trend of the bilateral ties as positive and discussed international issues and the current crisis in the Persian Gulf.

At the meeting, the Soviet deputy foreign minister described the Iraqi onslaught against Kuwait as a collosal strategic error and said: Under the present conditions we favor a peaceful solution and will endeavor to break the deadlock in the current crisis. He added: The UN Security Council resolutions on economic sanctions are regarded as peaceful solutions to the crisis, and of course, these current sanctions could be intensified.

Our country's deputy foreign minister, while expounding our country's stances in the face of the current crisis in the Persian Gulf and reiterating the need for a diplomatic solution, said:

We believe that ending the crisis necessitates the withdrawal of U.S. and Iraqi forces from the region and Kuwait. To expedite the establishment of peace and security in the Persian Gulf, the countries in the region are capable of ending the crisis by playing their role, hence securing the future of peace and stability in the region.

The two countries's deputy foreign ministers, having reviewed the future prospects of the region, discussed various means for taking practical decisions toward the establishment of peace and security in the region.

### Turkey's Ozal, Hashemi-Rafsanjani Discuss Region

*NC1709122190 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] President Turgut Ozal of Turkey held a telephone discussion with President Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the latest developments in the region. President Ozal recalled his upcoming visit to the Persian Gulf countries and the Iraqi foreign minister's visit to Iran and informed Hashemi-Rafsanjani that his special messenger will convey Turkey's views on these matters to Iran by. Hashemi-Rafsanjani thanked President Ozal for Turkey's concern and informed him that he will welcome a visit by his special representative.

## Deputy Minister Meets EC Envoys on Iraqi Ties

*LD1709101990 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA—A senior Foreign Ministry official Sunday [16 Sep] said that foreign forces in the Persian Gulf would disturb peace and security in this region. Addressing a gathering of ambassadors of the EC member countries here yesterday, Deputy Foreign Minister for Europe and America Mahmud Va'ezi, said: "The region does not need a guardian."

As for Iran's stand vis-a-vis the latest developments in the Persian Gulf, he underscored Iran's committment to the U.N. Security Council resolution 661 on Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. "Iran has explicitly condemned Iraq's aggression against Kuwait," he reiterated.

Va'ezi also elaborated on normalization of Tehran-Baghdad ties in the aftermath of the August 17 acceptance of the 1975 accord by the Iraqi president. "This is based on Iran's policy of establishing peaceful, friendly and good neighbourly relations with its neighbours and has no connection with recent developments in the Persian Gulf region."

As for normalization of Iran's ties with the EC members, Va'ezi said: "The two sides are interested in the expansion of bilateral relations." But, he added, "no joint communique is expected to be signed or released in this connection. No change has also been made in Iran's principled stands."

## Khamene'i Addresses POW's on Advance of Islam

*LD1709194490 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Excerpts] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, esteemed leader of the Islamic republic, spoke at a meeting with a large group of resistant and proud liberated POW's this morning. He referred to the realization of God's promise that the Muslim and steadfast nation of Iran would enjoy divine victory and triumph and emphasized that the banner of Islam and divine faith will inevitably be raised throughout the world as another divine promise. [passage omitted]

Quoting from the latest admissions of the superpowers and their allies, the esteemed leader said: Due to their hostility toward the Islamic Republic of Iran, and in order to confront the increasing growth of revolutionary and genuine Islam in the world, they strengthened that feeble enemy throughout the whole course of the imposed war and supported him. But, in spite of the fact that all the powers lined up against Islamic Iran, Islamic promises were realized and the great Muslim nation of Iran achieved the great victory it had been waiting, due to its steadfastness and patience.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i pointed to the steadfast and superior position of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the political standpoint. Emphasizing the need for staging the ceremonies of the Holy Defense Week [beginning 22 September], he said: On the anniversary of the imposed war, our nation will be honoring the memory of the dear missing-in-action and the honorable martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the path of God to guarantee our victories; and the nation will celebrate its great victory.

The leader of the Islamic revolution addressed the great people of Iran and those devoted to Islam, the revolution and the world sovereignty of Islam: The most mighty powers of East and West joined hands together and spent billions of dollars and also deployed the most sophisticated war and propaganda machines to fight you for eight years—but, they did not achieve their aims and this is the best sign of the strength and victory of our nation.

The leader of the Islamic revolution, continuing his remarks, referred to the strength of the military forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: Our Armed Forces today are an orderly, strong, and disciplined force, possessing high-quality equipment; and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps too, is counted as a unique organization and a revolutonary and alert force. Alongside the courageous military forces, the Iranian nation is now present on the arena of revolution, happier and more cheerful than in the past. We consider this to be a great victory for Islam.

Addressing the freed POW's, the esteemed leader referred to the hard and difficult conditions of the eight-year imposed war which the Iranian nation had surmounted. He said that the banner of monotheism, Islam, and faith should be raised all over the world as the banner symbolizing steadfastness against repression and tyranny anywhere in the world; as the supporter of the liberation of nations in the face of the world's tyrannical powers; and also as the center of hope for the oppressed.

His Eminence Khamene'i stressed that nations should be awakened and Muslims should be proud of dear Islam. He said that the world's powerful and bullies today fear only Islam, the Koran, and genuine Muslims. The concern felt by the reactionaries and the banner-holders of American Islam is also due to pure Mohammedan Islam, because Islam's resurrection is bringing hope and glad tidings to Muslims and the oppressed. He added: Our society, which is the center of attention in the Islamic world, will be built in accordance with divine promise and the requirements of islam. We achieved our victory under the shadow of unity of word, which our dear Imam always emphasized. And the nation which is standing with such courage, firmness, and solidarity, should refrain from taking sides [Goruh-Gara'i-ha], from pitching ranks [khat-bazi-ha], and from being selfish.

In conclusion, his eminence, Ayatollah Khamene'i, stressed the need for the experience, alertness, and capabilities of the released POW's to he utilized as a valuable reserve at the service of the country's reconstruciton. He called on the released POW's to make efforts and work in difference arenas for the sake of the country and revolution's progress. [passage omitted]

### Ahmad Khomeyni Praises Khamene'i Stance on U.S.

*LD1709133490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] The families of the martyrs from the town of Taibad, a number of employees from the country's national industries, as well as various strata of people were received by Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni at the Jamaran mosque yesterday.

In that meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni elaborated on the outstanding characteristics of the great leader of the Islamic revolution, His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his soul enter paradise, and said: Above all else, his eminence the imam was a self-made man, and what distinguished his eminence from those leaders outside Iran was the fact that his main concern was to please God in all arenas of struggle. What rendered the imam's word penetrating and binding was nothing other than his honesty and pursuit of God's blessing. His eminence the imam raised the flag of Islam and attacked the American-style Islam.

Remarking on the Iraqi onslaught against Kuwait, he said: This action has turned Muslim thoughts away from the issue of Israel, while it has also caused Arabestan [Saudi Arabia] to call the Muslims' sworn enemies to come to the Persian Gulf.

Remarking on the nature of the Islamic revolution, he reiterated: If one day we give in to the United States, then on that day we would have to forget the principle mottos of the revolution. He said: We do not accept the Iraqi presence in Kuwait, just as we have condemned the U.S. presence.

Praising the recent remarks delivered by the eminent leader ['Ali Khamene'i], Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni stressed: those remarks made the world understand that revolutionary Iran will never budge from its revolutionary stances. On the one hand Bush redressed his remarks, while on the other Baker said he never claimed they would stay in the region. Moreover, the U.S. States Department officially disassociated itself from the stance adopted by the U.S. secretary of state. This has been a political victory for us. We praise and thank the great leader for his policies and will always stand prepared behind this dear leader to encounter any event.

### Envoy to Turkey Says Observing UN Sanctions

*LD1709174990 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Ankara, Sep. 17, IRNA—Iranian Ambassador to Turkey Mohammad Reza Baqeri Monday brushed aside rumours that the Islamic Republic was not observing the U.N.-approved economic sanctions against Iraq. In an interview published by the daily 'GUNES', the ambassador refuted as "baseless" allegations in the Turkish press that Iran was sending foodstuffs to Iraq.

Baqeri said the Islamic Republic has regards for the U.N. Security Council resolutions banning all trade with Iraq for its August 2 invasion of Kuwait. Certain segments of the Turkish press claimed on Sunday that the Islamic Republic intended to buy foodstuffs including cereals on the international markets for shipment to Iraq.

### Cabinet Meets, Discusses Persian Gulf Crisis

*LD1609172890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] During its session this evening, the Cabinet first discussed the significant developments in Iran and the issues related to the Persian Gulf crisis. Also during this session, the Cabinet declared 20 September as a public holiday [19 September coincides with anniversry of prophet's demise and is therefore a public holiday; and Friday is the weekend in Iran] This will be regarded as part of the annual leave. The health centers and other departments, which provide essential services, should arrange their work schedule for Thursday in such a way as to maintain services without any stoppage.

### Oil Ministry Officials Among Released POW's

*LD1509193390 Tehran IRNA in English 1841 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 15, IRNA—Two former deputies of the Oil Ministry and 49 senior army officers captured during the Iran-Iraq war were repatriated Saturday. The deputies, Mohsen Yahyawi and Mr. Bushehri, were captured along with the then oil minister Mohammad Javad Tondgooyan, in southern Iran by Iraqi troops in 1981.

They were among the 24th group of freed war prisoners who arrived in Iran today. The group also included a theologian identified as Hojjat ol-Eslam Abutorabi. There is yet no word on the fate of Tondgooyan. [names as received]

### Ankara's Involvement in Gulf Termed 'Necessity'

*NC1409150690 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "The U.S. Writes Off Debts To Get Regional Nations More Involved"]

[TExt] The United States administration has suggested to Congress to forgive Turkey 7.3 billion dollars due to

Washington [to] compensate for Ankara's ensuing loss of trade with Iraq as a result of its joining the U.S. orchestrated economic sanctions against Baghdad.

Washington is also trying to write off a 6.7 million-dollar debt of Egypt.

In the course of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war, Turkey had adopted an impartial position expanding transactions with both Tehran and Baghdad. [as published]

In fact, Turkey managed to pocket large sums of money out of the conflict between Tehran and Baghdad by assuming a transit role for the commodities the warring duo needed to import or export. Turkey, in particular, derived lucrative income out of the transit charge levied upon the Iraqi pipelines exporting oil via Turkey.

Ankara, however, came to experience economic bottlenecks since the termination of Iraq-Iran war in 1988 which naturally led to transportation of goods through sea lanes in the Persian Gulf.

But things went from bad to worse when, after the August 2 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, Turkey decided to try its lot with the Western camp and joined the sanctions against its large-scale economic partner Iraq.

The writing off of the Turkish debt, however, is not an unexpected move as the country can play a very significant role once hostilities break out between U.S. and Iraq.

In the event a military clash becomes inevitable Turkish bases and amassing of troops near its borders with Iraq will be very important to the U.S. war policies. Besides, Turkey's infantry, one of the biggest among the NATO members, can play a crucial role as well in a war scenario.

It appears that Ankara's entanglement into the mess has been, from the Turkish leaders' point of view, an economic necessity to help it with its economic bottlenecks arising from the Iraq-Kuwait crisis.

But the issue is political rather than economic for Egypt. For a while, the country under the late Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir had assumed a leadership role among the Arab nations. But Cairo lost everything with its signing of the treacherous Camp David Accord with the Zionist enemy.

It became a parriah among Muslims no sooner than it signed the accord. The U.S., however, has tried much in recent years to help Egypt out of isolation. Now Egypt sees a chance of being in the limelight and becoming active in the international scene by joining the Western camp against Iraq.

But as far as the U.S. is concerned, it is only trying to pull more regional nations into the Iraqi-created mess perhaps to have them fight a proxy war for it. In other words, the U.S. efforts to get regional nations more involved may be interpreted as a move by Wasington to flare up another Third World war by Third World human resources. [sentence as published]

### Crisis Said To Expose 'Truths' of Iraq War

*LD1709134490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1105 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the name of God. Each day the Kuwaiti crisis is prolonged. More hidden truths about the eight-year imposed war are divulged and Iran's justified position is further proved to the world. The outset of the Kuwaiti crisis and the start of the conflict between countries which had joined forces against our country during the imposed war gave each country the opportunity to expose the other's role in that unjust war.

In a message to the people of Iraq U.S. President George Bush openly stated the U.S. role in the imposed war. He said that without U.S. backing Iraq could not have brought the war against Iran to a conclusion. Two days ago, in response to a question about the conflicting past and present stance of his country vis-a-vis Iraq, French President Mitterrand admitted that Iraq was the aggressor in the war against Iran but we supported Iraq to combat Islamic fundementalism. If we had not done this the fate of many Arab countries and Israel would be different today.

A month ago the amir of Kuwait expressed his consternation about Iraqi troops' occupation of his country. He said that in the eight-year imposed war Kuwait gave Iraq more than 14 billion dollars in financial assistance, and all this country's ports and political clout were placed at Iraq's disposal. A month ago in a similar statement, without quoting figures, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia stated that his country, in conjunction with Arab shaykhdoms, gave Iraq billions of dollars during the eight years of imposed war.

These remarks on the unjust war against the Muslim people of Iran did not surprise us. We always stated that Iraq was not our only opponent but that it comprised an amalgamation of arrogant and reactionary countries which were doing their best to extinguish the glowing flames of the Islamic revolution. It should be pointed here that the steadfastness of the Muslim and heroic people of Iran during the many years of imposed war stemmed from their awareness and understanding of their numerous enemies and their grasp of behind-the-scenes political wheelings and dealings, and their saga-makings on the battlefields eventually brought them victory and made them proud in the eyes of the world.

### Editorial Criticizes UN 'Double Standard' on Iraq

*LD1709105190 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA—The Persian daily JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in its editorial Monday criticizes the U.N. Security Council for exercising double standard in its judgement of Iraqi crimes against Iran during 1980-88 war and 45 days of Kuwaiti occupation. The daily was commenting on Security Council Sunday [16 Sep] resolution condemning Baghdad several hours after it violated diplomatic immunity of few foreign embassies in the Iraqi occupied Kuwait and arrested several diplomats including the French.

Throughout the eight years of the Iraqi imposed war and repeated crimes and atrocities against Iran, the Security Council issued only seven resolutions, none of which condemned the criminal aggressor, the daily deplored. It even turned a blind eye on Iraqi use of chemical weapons against civilians and the genocide in Halabja. However, within the 45 days since the occupation of Kuwait, the body has adopted seven resolutions in condemnation of the Iraqi misconduct, it said adding that proportion of the Iraqi crimes against Iran cannot be compared with what Baghdad is doing in Kuwait.

The Security Council members, said the paper, through their double standard, have left no presstige for the body. Failure of the Security Council is not only limited to its attitude to Iran but to the U.S. aggression on Grenada and the Zionist crimes in the occupied Palestine.

The paper in conclusion called on all those who wish to put an end to the present situation, disclose the true nature of the satanic powers and protest against double standards and discrimination by the international body.

## Neutrality Questioned

*NC1409164090 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 3 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "A Second Mediation"]

[Excerpts] The U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has initiated efforts to alleviate tension in the ongoing Persian Gulf crisis sparked by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

This is the second mediation effort by the U.N. secretary general in the Persian Gulf crisis, the first being in the case of the Iraqi aggression against Iran in 1980. This time too, the U.N. head is endeavoring to convince the Iraqis to stop aggression and encourage them to quit Kuwait in an attempt to restore peace and tranquility into the volatile Persian Gulf.

However, the likelihood of the U.N. secretary general's success in alleviating the tension is remote. The crisis is too serious to be solved through a simple diplomatic shuttle.

As an independent person and not the U.N. chief, Mr. Perez de Cuellar is a positive personality. He has shown in practice that he supports stability and just peace in the world's crisis centers. But his position as the head of the United Nations does not allow him to freely carry out his fair judgements on political crises in the world. This duplicity in character and profession to a great extent curtails Mr. Perez de Cuellar's efficiency in solving the regional tensions. His problem is that he is unable to carry out his own independent plans and formulas in settling the regional disputes. Rather he has to implement those plans drawn up by the Security Council and the U.N. chief's own formulas should be in line with the council's policies to have a chance of success.

In his diplomatic missions, the secretary general would naturally seek the closest and most logical solutions through which to execute the policies and demands of the Security Council. The more he employs political insight the better he would be able to resolve the political crises, in accordance with the Security Council's advice.

The Security Council, regrettably, has failed to adopt a neutral position independent from foreign pressures in the present Persian Gulf crisis which has been escalated by the U.S. military build-up in the region. [passage omitted]

Now Mr. Perez de Cuellar as the head of an organization whose most important characteristic is neutrality, has been assigned to resolve a regional crisis by a council which itself has openly breached this crucial characteristic and has passed a resolution under pressure from a single member.

If not satisfied with the Security Council's attitudes towards the Persian Gulf crisis, Iraq is very unlikely to respect the council's plans and initiatives at this stage of the crisis. Meanwhile, a factor weakening the role of the secretary gneeral or any other authority in resolving the present crisis is the monopoly of the decision-making right by the U.S. The U.S. government as the leader of the tension-creating operations by the foreign forces in the Persian Gulf intends to monopolize the authority of decision-making regarding the crisis.

The chances of Mr. Perez de Cuellar's success in resolving the current crisis in the Persian Gulf also largely depend on the extent of cooperation and support he would receive from the regional governments involved in the conflict.

## Editorial Assesses U.S. Call for Helsinki Summit

*NC1409165590 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 3 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "Iraq Cannot Simply Devour Kuwait"]

[Text] Apparently nothing has come out of the negotiations between the UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz in their two-day meet in the Jordanian capital of Amman. The world is then back to square one as far as finding a political settlement to the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait is concerned.

The failure of the secretary general-'Aziz talks, however, did not come as a surprise to many political observers. It was predictable that Iraq had agreed to the negotiations with the UN chief out of two considerations. For one, Iraq was playing a psycho-war game trying to use the talks as a political and propaganda maneuver. The second consideration which is rather more important, has probably been the Iraqi attempt at buying time in order to dilute the whole episode over time.

If this perspective is right Iraq then may be judged to have adopted a policy of trying to weather its own created storm by passing time and making the whole thing a fait accompli. But Iraq's chances of selling its Kuwaiti adventurism to the world over time seems less than slim.

Meanwhile reports speak of an imminent meet between the Washington and Moscow bosses in Helsinki with an announced focus on the Persian Gulf crisis. This reflects the significance of the issue from the superpower view which apparently regards the Kuwaiti issue as more than a regional problem.

The U.S. agreement to the Finnish capital of Helsinki as the venue of the talks with Gorbachev somehow reflects a retreat of sorts by the U.S. before the USSR. The U.S. acceptance of Helsinki shows Washington's willingness to give some concessions to Moscow, not to sabotage American management of the Iraqi created crisis. These concessions may even concern the European scene as the U.S. badly wants to secure a face saving victory for itself in this crisis.

However, a mere passage of one month since the rolling down of the Iraqi juggernaut on Kuwait is not enough to negate the possibility of military confrontation in the Persian Gulf.

Among the most important parameters that have prevented a military clash one is Iraq's taking Westerners as hostage.

But the game started by Saddam Husayn cannot be conceived as ending in a draw.

Given the recent developments at the world political level, it appears Iraq has cut itself a slice bigger than it can possibly gulp down. If Iraq gets away with its occupation and annexation of Kuwait, the whole body of international laws and rights crumbles down.

Although the world powers have time and again violated these laws themselves, they do not seem to allow a Third World country like Iraq to simply swallow Kuwait and get away with it.

## U.S. Said Using 'Propaganda' To Justify Presence

*LD1509213490 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the wake of arrest and transfer of foreign subjects resident in Kuwait, Iraqi troops after entering the residences of a number of Western ambassadors in Kuwait, including those of France, the Netherlands and Canada, took a number of them to unknown places. Some of these individuals, including Canadian nationals and the military attache of France were later released, but nothing is known about the fate of the other three abducted French subjects.

In a reaction to this matter, French President Francois Mitterrand has vowed that Paris will respond to these Iraqi measures after the French cabinet session at the Elysee Palace today, Saturday. In this same connection France has called for an emergency session of the Western countries alliance which is likely to be held in Brussels this Monday.

[Word indistinct] from France and other countries which have been faced with a crisis involving their nationals for the past few days, the NATO and EC member states, in separate statements have condemned those action on the part of Iraq and termed it as a serious breach of the 1961 Geneva Convention to which Iraq is a signatory. America too has announced this Iraqi move as an undesirable act and extended support to France in adopting any decision.

While responding to the protests, Iraq has denied the issue and said: Baghdad fully observes the provisions of the Convention in case of those embassies which are [word indistinct] valid, but this Convention does not apply to the former embassies located in the province of Kuwait. For those missions are not recognized as diplomatic representative missions as of August 24 1990, following the Iraqi call for closure of all embassies.

Although the Iraqi move against foreign subjects is condemned because it is contrary to international law and individual freedom, it is obvious that the matter has never been given priority by a country like the United States. Nevertheless U.S. presidential security advisor had in this regard noted a few weeks ago that BUsh would never change his policy in the Persian Gulf crisis for the sake of safety of foreign subjects. Therefore exploitation of the subject of foreign nationals by America, which has been resorted to by it in (?various) ways since the onset of the Persian Gulf crisis in order to justify its military presence, is (?firmly) a ploy.

Evidently Iraqi measures concerning foreign nationals and nations and their being taken to sensitive military areas too, are in retaliation for the U.S. military presence and for preventing eruption of war in the region.

At any rate, America will not gain anything by propagating the issue in order to start its military invasion. Because at the present juncture, Washington on account of numerous problems confronted by it, will not be in a position to launch the offensive at least until 1 October. The significant point is that internal rifts have surfaced on the subject among U.S. Administration. [Word indistinct] officials have termed as illogical any probable military attack against Iraq. Therefore support of Bush for France and other European states in condemning Iraq is only a propaganda ploy aimed at justifying U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region.

### Editorial Demonstrates Arab Leaders 'Pettiness'

*NC1409165190 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 2 Sep 90 p 2*

[Editorial: "Petty Arab Leaders"]

[Excerpts] Most of the contemporary Arab leaders though differing with each other on many issues have one common trait. That is pettiness. That explains why they do not feel the pinch of humility. They are indifferent to subservience and treachery is taken for granted. From their point of view deceit, hypocrisy and betrayal is no vice.

For instance Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah of Kuwait was the first Arab leader proud to have his oil tankers reflagged with the Stars and Stripes in July 1987.

On one of his visits to Kuwait during the Iraq-Iran war, Yasir 'Arafat had said the Palestinians would fight those who invade Kuwait. He said Kuwait, being part of the Arab land, would be defended by his warriors.

Of course the rhetoric of Mr. 'Arafat was meant to intimidate Iranians and appease the Kuwaiti rulers. Ironically Kuwait was invaded and 'Arafat and his commandos were not in Kuwait beside Shaykh Jabir's soldiers. They were enjoying the hospitality of the aggressors in Baghdad. Moreover, Arab diplomats in the Persian Gulf are reluctantly drawing some negative conclusions about the PLO's role in Kuwait. They believe that much of Iraq's advance intelligence information was supplied by PLO supporters in Kuwait. [passage omitted]

One can't help recalling what the amir of Kuwait had said in February 1989 on the occasion of Kuwait's independence anniversary. Addressing military and police commaders Shaykh Jabir said his state will not be an 'easy prey' for those who want to 'swallow' it. He praised the armed forces' prowess and efforts in safeguarding the country.

The deposed amir then told the gathering that his armed forces had proved their competence by defending the country's security during tough and dangerous conditions. He was implying to the Iraq-Iran war years. Iran just overlooked its right to punish Kuwait for its open and unlimited collaboration with Iraq. [passage omitted]

Without feeling embarrassed that all its previous endeavors failed to produce any solution to the Persian Gulf crisis, the Arab League held another two-day session in Cairo last week.

Again the Arab leaders demonstrated a clear case of differences. About half the member states did not send representatives to the Arab foreign ministers meeting.

As if disclosing some well-guarded secret, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said on Saturday after releasing the session's decisions: "We have differences when we come to the way of handling the crisis. We do not hide this". The Palestine Liberation Organization along with Iraq and some other Arab states did not attend the session. However the PLO had voted against the August 10 resolution of the Arab League demanding immediate Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

But all of them agree that the dignity of Arab nation will be substantially enhanced if they call the Persian Gulf as Arab Gulf. That's pettiness, isn't it?

### Vice President Manafi Visits Karrubi in Hospital

*NC1809054890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] On behalf of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Mr. Manafi, vice president and head of the Organization for the Preservation of the Environment, visited Majlis Speaker Mr. Karrubi, who has been hospitalized.

### IGRC Announces Defense Week Maneuvers

*LD1609122890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] has issued a statement announcing that, in order to commemorate eight years of holy defense, Fath-1 maneuvers will be carried out by the ground force of the IRGC during Holy Defense Week. The statement asks all the reserve forces of the second and third brigades of the Mohammad the Prophet of God Division 27 to present themselves in military uniform at the Hamzeh garrison 21 of the IRGC mobilization of the oppressed located on Afsariyeh highway on Wednesday 28 Shahrivar [19 September] to carry out the maneuvers.

## Nepal & Bhutan

### Demonstrators Hold Rally for New Constitution

#### Protesting Delay

*OW1709150090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1343 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept. 17 KYODO—Tens of thousands of demonstrators staged a rally Monday to protest what they claimed is a delay in promulgating Nepal's new constitution. The rally, organized by communists and leftists, called for the early promulgation of the Himalayan Kingdom's new constitution which is expected to contain clauses guaranteeing a British-style constitutional monarchy and multiparty democracy.

The protesters marched through the city's streets carrying slogans such as "announcement of the constitution without delay" and "down with reactionary elements." After the rally, protesters held a mass meeting in the center of Kathmandu to demand the early promulgation of the constitution.

The government has yet to make an official announcement on when the constitution will be promulgated.

DESHANTAR, a Nepalese language newspaper considered close to the ruling Nepalese Congress Party, reported that it appears likely the constitution will be promulgated on September 26.

King Birendra acceeded to the introduction of a constitutional monarchy and multiparty democracy in Nepal following repeated demonstrations across the nation early this year calling for the scrapping of what its detractors described as absolute rule by the monarch.

The King named K.P. Bhattarai as prime minister in April and asked him to set up a government advisory panel to draft a new constitution. The government has been assessing a draft of the new constitution since September 10 when the panel presented the draft to the king. Nepalese newspapers earlier reported the government would possibly announce the new constitution on September 19.

### Leftists Warn of 'Conspirators'

*BK1809011190 Hong Kong AFP in English 2103 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Kathmandu, Sept. 17 (AFP)—Some 10,000 people demonstrated Monday in Kathmandu to demand the promulgation of Nepal's new draft constitution without prior modification.

Leftist students and Marxist-Leninist activists marched around the city, carrying placards like "Beware of royal palace conspirators against the new constitution," before converging on the city center to hear speeches by leaders of Nepal's leftist parties attended by a crowd of more than 15,000.

The leaders warned of a conspiracy being hatched within the royal palace to change the new draft constitution which was submitted to King Birendra on September 10 and is due to be promulgated after its review by the Council of Ministers.

"These leaders in their separate speeches have warned the king that they would launch yet another movement once again if the constitution is not promulgated soon and if any change is being made from the draft", a spokesman of the Nepal Communist Party (Marxist/Leninist) faction said.

Similar demonstrations were held in townships across the country as communist leaders tried to mobilise the Nepalese people against the alleged conspiracy, party sources said.

## Pakistan

### President Comments on General Elections, Bhutto

*BK1609073890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has reaffirmed that the general elections will be held according to schedule and there is no possibility of postponement or any other changes. Talking informally to newsmen at the Rawalpindi Lions Club this evening, the president said the caretaker government will continue to fulfill its responsibilities until the general elections.

Regarding accountability, the president said this a legal process and no one should be in haste to expect anything.

In reply to a question about rumors that changes are imminent in the country, the president categorically denied them and said rumors are merely rumors. Self-interested elements have spread the rumors to create insecurity and instability.

When his attention was drawn to the allegations made by Benazir Bhutto, cochairperson of the Pakistan People's Party, at Larkana regarding the dissolution of assemblies and the government, the president said the question should be referred to Benazir Bhutto. The president said that at first she blamed the Armed Forces, then she changed her attitude and made certain sections of the Armed Forces her target of allegation, and then again changed her posture and started accusing the president. The president said that it is the responsibility of voters to elect appropriate people whom they consider responsible and capable of running the affairs of the government and assembly.

### Minister Views Accountability, Criticizes Bhutto

*BK1709155990 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Interior Minister Zahid Sarfarez has said that the caretaker government will continue to function until the completion of the forthcoming election process which has already begun. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad today, he said the government wants to conduct elections which will definitely be held on 24 October.

The interior minister said that no member of the government has ever expressed a lack of confidence in the process of accountability. His personal opinion is that action should also be taken against those members of the bureaucracy who had been involved in corruption with politicians. Zahid Sarfarez said they are taking action according to law and it up to the tribunals to pass their judgments. It has already been proven that the tribunals are working independently.

The interior minister criticized Benazir Bhutto, cochairperson of the Pakistan People's Party, for launching a campaign against the president.

Zahid Sarfarez expressed surprise over the U.S. ambassador's address to an Asia Society function in Washington, saying that in his opinion the U.S. envoy's remarks are tantamount to interference in Pakistan's internal affairs. The U.S. State Department should take note of this matter, he suggested.

### Editorial Condemns U.S. Ambassador's 'Interference'

*BK1709105590 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 17 Sep 90 p 4*

[Editorial: "American Interference"]

[Text] In a rare sensitivity shown for what has been officially described as "unwarranted interference in Pakistan's internal political process" by—of all the people—! His Excellency the Ambassador of the United States of America to Islamabad, the Foreign Office summoned the US Charge d'Affaires to convey the Government of Pakistan's "regret and disappointment" over certain remarks made by Mr Robert B. Oakley last Tuesday. The references to which Islamabad has taken exception came in the course of a speech made by the US envoy to the Asia Society in Washington. Notwithstanding the somewhat delayed response of Islamabad to what amounts in effect to Mr Oakely's taking it upon himself not only to interfere in our domestic affairs but to sit in judgement over them, Pakistan's official conduct in this instance marks a highly welcome change from the traditional pattern of treating even the most abrasive US meddling. What is most shocking about Mr Oakley's speech, the text of which has since been reproduced in the Pakistan media, is that he has chosen to instruct the government of Pakistan in an area in which his own country's role has perhaps remained the most important contributory factor for the better part of Pakistan's history: political corruption. Equally disturbing is the viceregal streak betrayed by Mr Oakley in giving a clean chit to the functioning of judicial forums in Pakistan.

The Pakistan government's reaction to Mr Oakley's uncalled for remarks would have caused satisfaction to the people of this country who have all along despised the cavalier attitude of successive US administrations towards them and towards issues sacred to them. However, the reaction of Islamabad in this particular case appears to be an exception and not indicative of any basic change of attitude. This is corroborated not only by the continued ease with which US embassy personnel in this country continue to keep themselves involved in all sorts of political activities, but also by the recent quantum jump in Pakistan's understanding for and accommodation of American strategic interests, particularly with regard to the Middle East crisis.

At the same time, the presence of US personnel in various capacities within Pakistan has anything but decreased in recent years. Even as the Pakistan Foreign Office called the US Charge d'Affaires to register protest over Mr Oakley's remarks, the Deputy Chief of US Mission in Islamabad was presiding over the swearing-in ceremony of the fourth batch comprising 27 Peace Corps volunteers to take up work in various parts of the country. The presence of the US Peace Corps in Pakistan during the 1960s and the early 1970s is still recalled by many with unease. The closure of their activities was welcomed by all those who remained skeptic, and for good reason, of the actual nature of the volunteers' activities. This is just one instance of the growing American presence and interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. It can only be hoped that the government of Pakistan would proceed with the new trend shown in its reaction to Ambassador Oakley's speech, and initiate solid measures to check such interference at all levels and in all forms.

### Poll Supports President's Action Against PPP

*BK1609163290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] According to a poll conducted by Gallup, two-thirds of the respondents supported President Ghulam Ishaq Khan's decision to dissolve the national and provincial assemblies. A little less than a quarter of the same opposed the decision. President's allegations against the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government's involvement in corruption, nepotism, horse-trading and weak administration were received with great credibility. Approximately 70 percent of the national urban sample agreed with allegations that PPP was deeply involved in corruption, horse-trading, nepotism, and was unable to enforce law and order in Sindh.

### Hearing on Assembly Dissolution Adjourned

*BK1709114290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Three constitutional petitions filed against the order of the president on the 6th of last month dissolving the assemblies came up for hearing before a full bench of the Sindh High Court in Karachi today. The attorney general, Mr. Aziz A. Munshi, stated before the court that the Supreme Court in Rawalpindi, in a short order passed on the 15th of this month, consolidated the writ petitions which challenged the dissolution of the assemblies and transferred them to two high courts in Lahore and Karachi. He stated that the federation needs time to file a counter affidavit in reply to the arguments made by the petitioners. The attorney general submitted that this will be done by the 23d of this month.

The court with the consensus of all the parties adjourned the hearing till the 24th of this month. The full bench comprised the chief justice, Mr. Justice Sajjad Ali Shah; Mr. Justice Salim Akhtar, Mr. Justice Syed Abdul Rahman Shah, Mr. Justice Mamoon Qazi, and Mr. Justice (Haji Gul Khairi).

### Courts To Try 16 Cases Against Ex-Government

*BK1609143390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Text] Sindh Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali has said the provincial government is investigating 21 cases of crime and financial irregularities against the previous Pakistan People's Party government. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon, he said hard evidence is available on 16 of these cases and they are being referred to the courts for trial.

Concerning the law and order situation in Sindh, he said although it is not satisfactory, the crime rate has not increased. The government is trying everything possible to control crime. A strong task force equipped with the necessary equipment is engaged in activities against bandits.

### Pakistan Asks for $500 Million in Relief Aid

*OW1509112190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1059 GMT 15 Sep 90*

[Text] Islamabad Sept. 15 KYODO—Pakistan has asked Japan for 500 million dollars in emergency relief to offset the effects of the Persian Gulf crisis on its economy, Finance Secretary A.R. Akhund said Saturday.

Speaking to a seminar on Japan's overseas economic cooperation fund's loans operations in Pakistan, he said his country needs the money "to tide over the unforeseen adversity in the wake of the current Gulf crisis."

Pakistan has explained the effects of the Middle East crisis on its economy to ambassadors from donor countries, seeking offsetting assistance. The financial impact of the crisis on Pakistan has been estimated at 1.1 billion dollars, mostly because of increased oil prices, a shortfall in remittances from its workers and the suspension of trade with Iraq and Iraqi-occupied Kuwait.

Akhund said he greatly appreciates the contribution of Japanese assistance to Pakistan's economic development and said he hopes this partnership will continue with "much stronger resolve and greater future commitment."

Koichi Obata, minister at the Japanese Embassy, told the seminar that, to date, Japan has provided 695.6 billion yen in economic aid to Pakistan.

### 41,700 Pakistanis Returned From Gulf

*BK1709151190 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Over 41,700 Pakistanis have eturned to Pakistan from Kuwait and Iraq as of Sunday [16 September]. The Cabinet Division's Emergency Assistance Cell in Islamabad said that 786 people are now left in Amman camps awaiting their repatriation to Pakistan. On an average, 500 to 700 people are returning home daily by road via the Taftan border. Citizens of India, Bangladesh, and the Philippines are also reaching Taftan by cars and buses. The National Logistics Cell has been assigned the task of transporting these foreign nationals to Wagah. Some 272 of the 286 foreign nationals who had reached Taftan have already departed for the Wagah border.

### Atomic Energy Commission To Set Up Plants

*BK1509115890 Lahore THE NATION in English 15 Sep 90 p 10*

[Text] Karachi—Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) is planning to construct in the short-term, a few nuclear power plants with foreign assistance as quickly as possible with a view to alleviate power shortages in the country.

Mention may be made of both France and China which have agreed to provide Pakistan nuclear power plants of 900 MW and 300 MW respectively. Negotiations on the technical and financial aspects of the deal are being reportedly conducted with both the countries. It is expected that the plants could be operative six years after the conclusion of agreements.

For meeting the relatively long-term requirements, efforts are simultaneously being made to develop an indigenous capability to design and construct nuclear power plants together with their components and fuels.

In this way, it is envisaged to establish about 2,000 MW nuclear power capacity by the year 2000 and 8,000 MW by 2010.

Meanwhile, a comprehensive programme of modernisation and upgrading of safety system at Karachi Nuclear Power Plant [KANUPP] is in progress in line with the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

In upgrading the safety of the plant, PAEC has worked closely with IAEA and invited international safety experts to make an independent check on the various systems.

An IAEA operational safety review team visited KANUPP twice last year and made short as well as long term recommendations for the continued safe operation of the plant.

## Sri Lanka

### Prime Minister Leaves for Trinidad, Tobago

*BK1609114290 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Sep 90*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister and Finance Minister D.B. Wijetunge left this morning to attend the Commonwealth finance minister's meeting in Trinidad and Tobago. Later on he will proceed to Washington to participate in a World Bank and IMF meeting. [passage omitted]

### Further on Napalm Bomb Allegations, Fort Siege

*BK1709150490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1442 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 17 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's dominant rebel group charged Monday that the air force had resumed napalm bombing of the northern Jaffna Peninsula, killing 28 people. The government meanwhile said its troops shot dead more than 30 Tamil rebels after intensifying operations to destroy rebel bunkers near the army-controlled Jaffna Fort in northern Sri Lanka.

In a statement received here from the London office of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the LTTE said that air force planes and helicopter gunships "resumed bombardments and strafing all over the Jaffna Peninsula. "Napalm and barrel bombs which contain petrol have been used extensively. Avro planes have dropped in several places 300 kilogram (660 pound) high explosive bombs," it said.

The guerrillas alleged that the bombing killed 28 civilians and injured about 60 others and also caused damage to hundreds of buildings and houses. Previous LTTE allegations of napalm bombing by the air force have been vehemently denied by the Sri Lankan Government.

Later, an official communique here said that in the last 24 hours security forces shot dead more than 30 rebels during "intensive military operations in the areas adjacent to the Jaffna Fort." Hundreds of soldiers staged a dawn offensive on Thursday to break the blockade on the 350-year-old colonial structure which houses the region's biggest army garrison.

Colombo has maintained that the fort siege was completely broken in two days of fierce fighting which left at least 175 people, including 26 troops, dead but the LTTE has claimed the army camp was still under siege. Monday's communique reiterated that more than 200 soldiers and policemen trapped inside the fort since fighting broke out on June 11 between government troops and the LTTE "have now been relieved of their long ordeal."

The LTTE besieged several army outposts in the north shortly after renewing its military campaign to establish an independent homeland in the island's northeast, home to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority. Military officials here admit that the rebels have directed sporadic mortar fire into the fort since Thursday but said the army was consolidating defence positions around the fort after smashing rebel bunkers in the vicinity.

An official said the Tigers were firing mortars from the outskirts of the fort area where massive bunkers were said to contain underground tunnels leading to the rebel-controlled Jaffna town situated close by. The LTTE statement, meanwhile, said: "It (the bombing) is presumed as a revenge bombing for the disastrous failure in breaking the siege by the Tigers around Jaffna Fort."

Colombo has dismissed previous LTTE allegations of napalm bombing by the air force as "fabrications" and said the air force was only going after identified rebel targets in the region. The LTTE also alleged that avro 748 passenger aircraft converted into bombers had dropped several barrel bombs on the moslem area in Jaffna, severely damaging a mosque. "Nine moslem civilians were among the dead in the Jaffna Peninsula. They were burnt to death by flames (that) engulfed their houses," it added.

In continuing violence in the Eastern Province, military officials said that a navy craft had retaliated when fired upon from four fibre glass boats off the Ampara coast. All four boats were sunk but LTTE casualties could not be confirmed, an official added.

The communique said troops searching for Tigers had smashed several bunkers and underground fortifications that had been abandoned by fleeing rebels in the multiethnic east which was the flashpoint of the current armed conflict. Violence initially flared up between government troops and the Tigers in the eastern districts of Batticaloa and Ampara before it spread across the sprawling northeast.

A major military crackdown that followed managed to oust the rebels from their eastern strongholds but the army action drove them into dense jungles in the area from where they have been launching guerrilla attacks. "Laying of ambushes, surprise attacks on terrorist hideouts and simultaneous strikes and skirmishes have broken the backbone of the LTTE military strategy (in the east)," the communique claimed. Unofficial and official figures estimate that more than 4,100 people have died in the war in the island's Northeast.

## LTTE Denies Heavy Casualties in North Fighting

*BK1709162890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 90*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has refuted claim of heavy casualties inflicted on the militants following the latest assault by Sri Lankan forces on their stronghold in Jaffna. LTTE sources have also denied that the militant organization is in disarray.

Meanwhile, our Colombo correspondent Karupaswamy that the curfew which was imposed in Mullaitivu was lifted this morning. In another development, President Premadasa has justified the recent seizure of documents on alleged human rights violations in Sri Lanka from a Sinhalese legislator who was about to leave for a UN meeting in Geneva last Tuesday [11 september].

## Soldiers, Policemen Evacuated From Jaffna Fort

*BK1809085190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 200 soldiers and policemen trapped inside Jaffna Fort since the last three months have been evacuated. A spokesman of the joint operations command told our Colombo correspondent, Karupaswamy, this morning that the daring operation took place yesterday evening under intensive air cover. The operation came after the mass landing of the combined forces last Thursday [13 September] on the southern side of the fort from Mandaitivu. The rescued soldiers and policemen are being brought to Colombo for treatment.

Meanwhile, curfew has been lifted from the Jaffna Peninsula except Jaffna town where the army continues its operations. Elsewhere, 11 LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants were killed in two separate incidents in Trincomalee and Amparai districts. The security forces have captured a number of LTTE vehicles and a large number of arms and ammunition.

### 11 LTTE 'Terrorists' Killed in Northeast

*BK1809085590 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0720 GMT 18 Sep 90*

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 18 (LANKAPUVATH)—Special Task Force troops attacked an LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] hideout at Kanchi Kudichiyaru in the Eastern Province and killed 4 terrorists, security sources told LANKAPUVATH. The security forces recovered large quantities of drugs and food in this attack. In the Trincomalee District security forces raided an LTTE base and killed 7 terrorists. Security sources also said that the Jaffna Fort, the security detachments at Kankesanturai, Elephant Pass and Vavuniya came under LTTE mortar and small arms fire. No casualties were reported.

### AFP Updates Battle Situation

*BK1809091590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0842 GMT 18 Sep 90*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 18 (AFP)—Government troops found further evidence of intense rebel activity in eastern Sri Lanka after raiding two major guerrilla bases and killing 11 Tamil militants, officials said Tuesday. A military spokeman also said that in continuing fighting around a disputed fort in the northern Jaffna peninsula troops shot dead at least 27 guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) while two policemen inside the fort were killed by a rebel mortar bomb.

Army soldiers Monday raided a main LTTE camp located in the naval headworks wildlife sanctuary in eastern Trincomalee, the spokesman said, adding that seven rebels died during a heavy gun battle which also wounded five troops. He said that several rebels fled into dense jungle after troops surrounded the sophisticated camp which had 14 fortified huts, a mini hospital, four underground bunkers and a communications centre.

According to military officials the seizure by troops of a large haul of medical supplies including saline, bandages, syringes and pills proved that the camp was a vital centre for treating injured militants in the area. Several weapons including three AK-47 rifles, pressure mines and camouflage uniforms were siezed from the hideout, an official said, adding that a generator, cooking utensils and a massive stock of food were also found there.

A senior army officer said that it was believed that the base was used by the guerrillas to stage ambushes on security forces in the area. Colombo said it had smashed rebel bases in the eastern districts of Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Amparai barely a month after fighting broke out in the region between government troops and the rebels on June 11. But guerrillas operating from thick forest land have been frequently carrying out ambushes on army patrols in the sprawling Eastern Province, killing the troops and robbing them of their weapons.

In neighbouring Amparai District, elite commandos of the Special Task Force (STF) stormed and destroyed a large LTTE base in Kanjikudichchiaru area, officials said. They added that the rebel camp had been set up a few kilometers (miles) from one of the LTTE's biggest jungle hideouts that was completely overrun by government troops in June.

The STF commandos killed four Tigers in Monday's raid and captured a massive quantity of arms which included 24 rifles, Sterling submachine guns, 1000 detonators and 1,000 kilograms (2,200 pounds) of explosives, official said. There were ten barrels of ammunition in the camp, an official said, adding that six lorries, two vehicles, an ambulance with markings of the former Indian Peace Keeping Force and a police car had also been abandoned by fleeing rebels.

Indian troops, deployed under a July 1987 bilateral pact, pulled out from the island's northeast after a 32-month bitter stay during which they fought a bloody bush war with the Tigers. The military spokesman said that special sniper units set up by the army inside the Jaffna Fort killed 27 rebels late Monday on the outskirts of the military garrison. But he said that two policemen died and another was wounded inside the fort when a mortar bomb fired by the rebels landed inside.

Fierce fighting has raged in the fort area since Thursday when Colombo broke a three-month blockade of the fort by the Tigers, a claim rejected by the LTTE. Fresh army units stationed in and around the fort have been unable to advance further due to minefields and buildings rigged with explosives by retreating rebels. Officials said that sniper squads struck at LTTE gun positions mounted in an abandoned guest house and a public library nearby.

Tamil sources said that heavily-armed teenaged LTTE cadres were manning strategically-located buildings in the area to prevent government troops from moving away from the fort towards the rebel-controlled Jaffna town close by. But the spokesman said that some 200 soldiers and policemen who had been under siege since fighting erupted in June had all been evacuated by boats and helicopters from the colonial fort.

The fort camp and other army outposts in the Tamil-dominated northeast were besieged by the guerrillas from June 11 but an army offensive in the Eastern Province ended the siege on army camps there. Unofficial and official sources say the violence in the northeast where the Tigers want to create a Tamil homeland, has killed more than 4,100 people.